

EXHIBIT 5, PART 1



US006244958B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Acres

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(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 12, 2001**

(54) **METHOD FOR PROVIDING INCENTIVE TO PLAY GAMING DEVICES CONNECTED BY A NETWORK TO A HOST COMPUTER**

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(*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(58) **Field of Search:** 463/16, 25, 26, 463/27, 28, 40, 42

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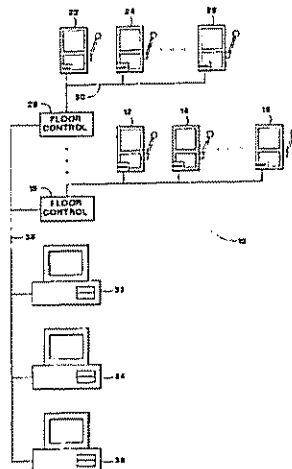
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(57)

ABSTRACT

A method for providing incentive to players of networked slot machines includes a card reader associated with each machine and a card associated with each player. A player account accessible by a host computer on the network is created which associates the player's card with the account. A predetermined credit is applied to the player's account. In a complementary incentive, credit from the player's account is applied to the coin-in meter of a slot machine responsive to insertion of the player card into a card reader associated with the machine. In a matching incentive also implemented by the present invention, each time the player inserts a coin into the slot machine, an equal credit is debited from the player's account and applied to the coin-in meter of the machine. In both cases, the credit can only be used by the player to play the machines and cannot be cashed out by the player.

29 Claims, 34 Drawing Sheets



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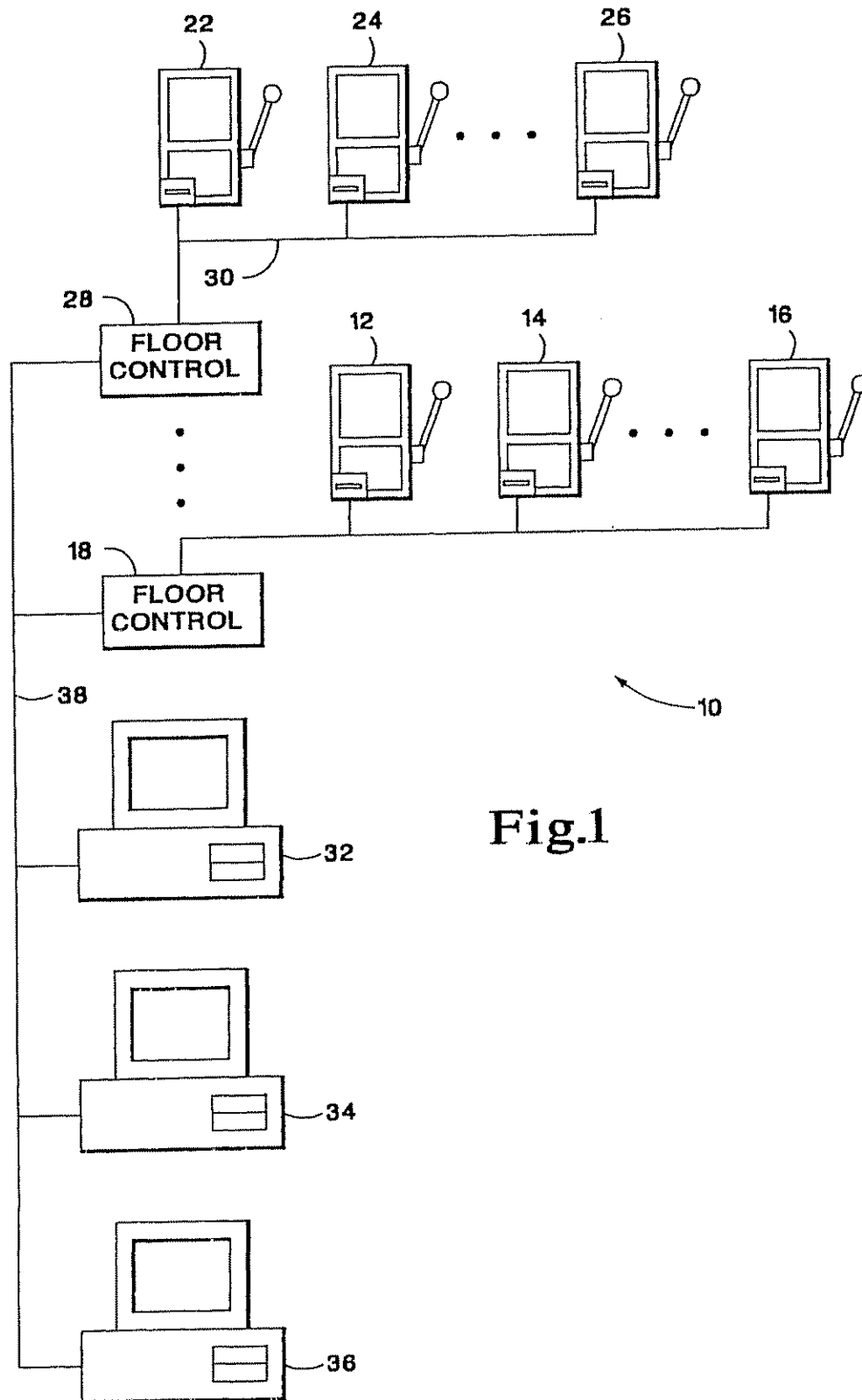


Fig.1

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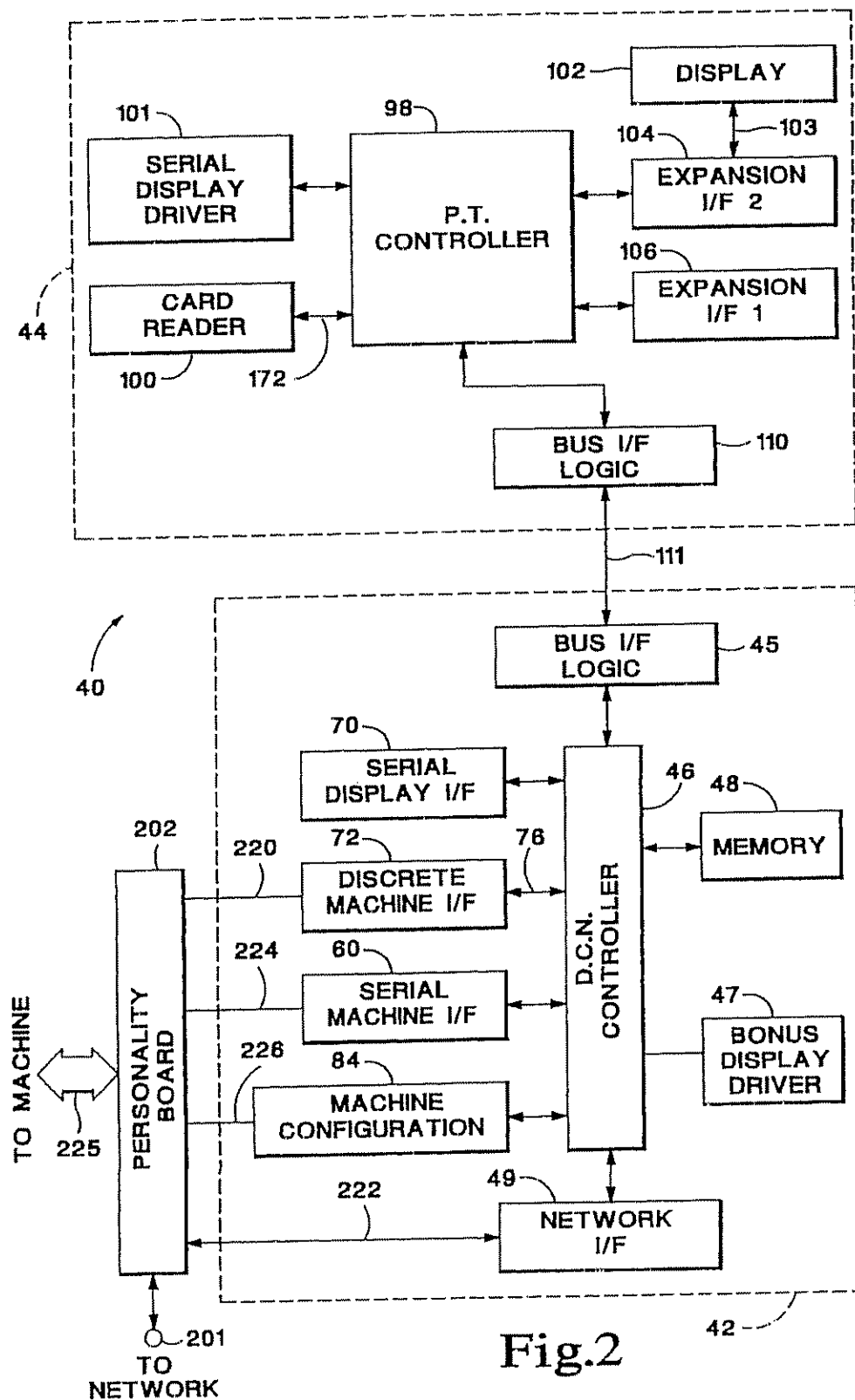
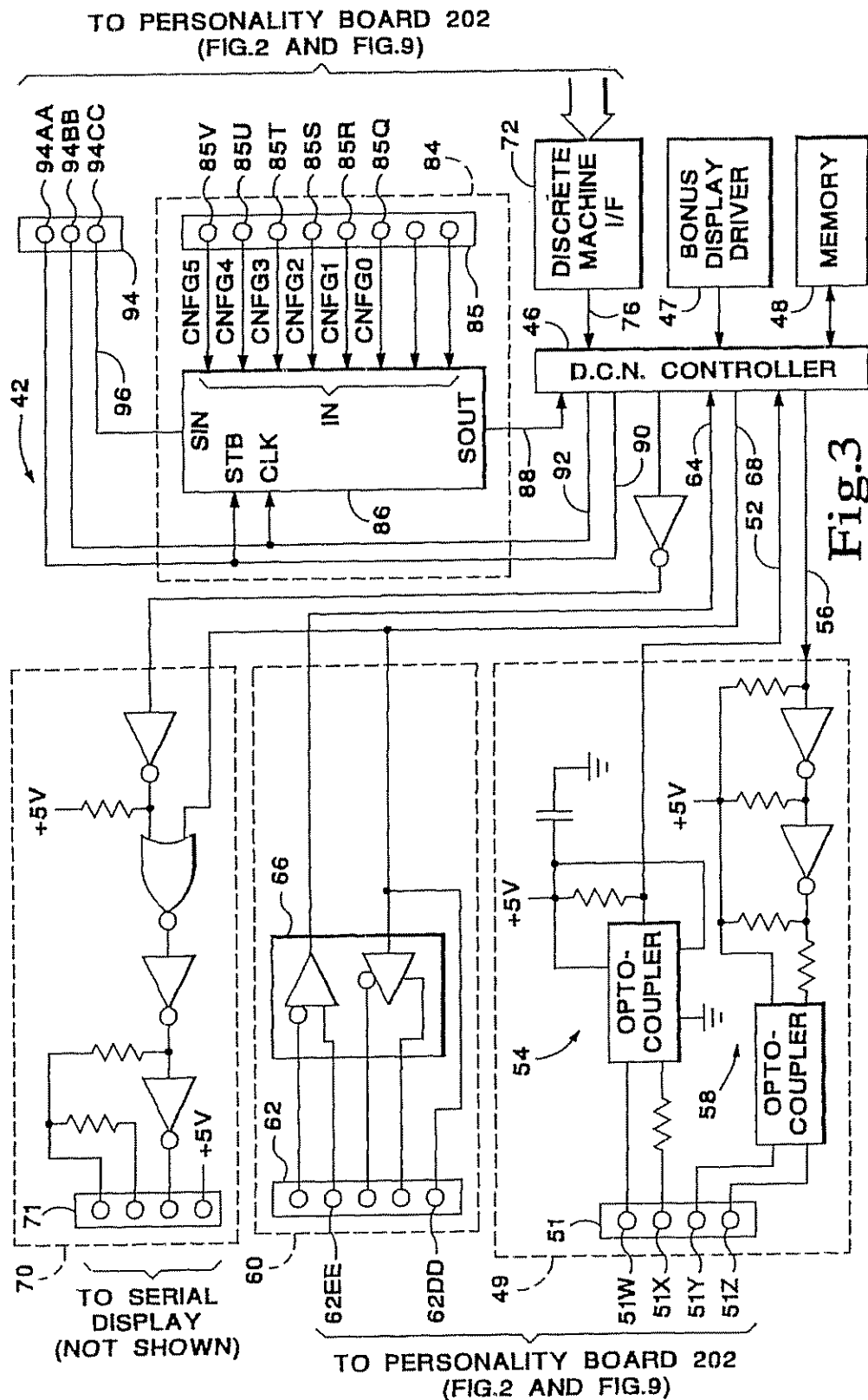
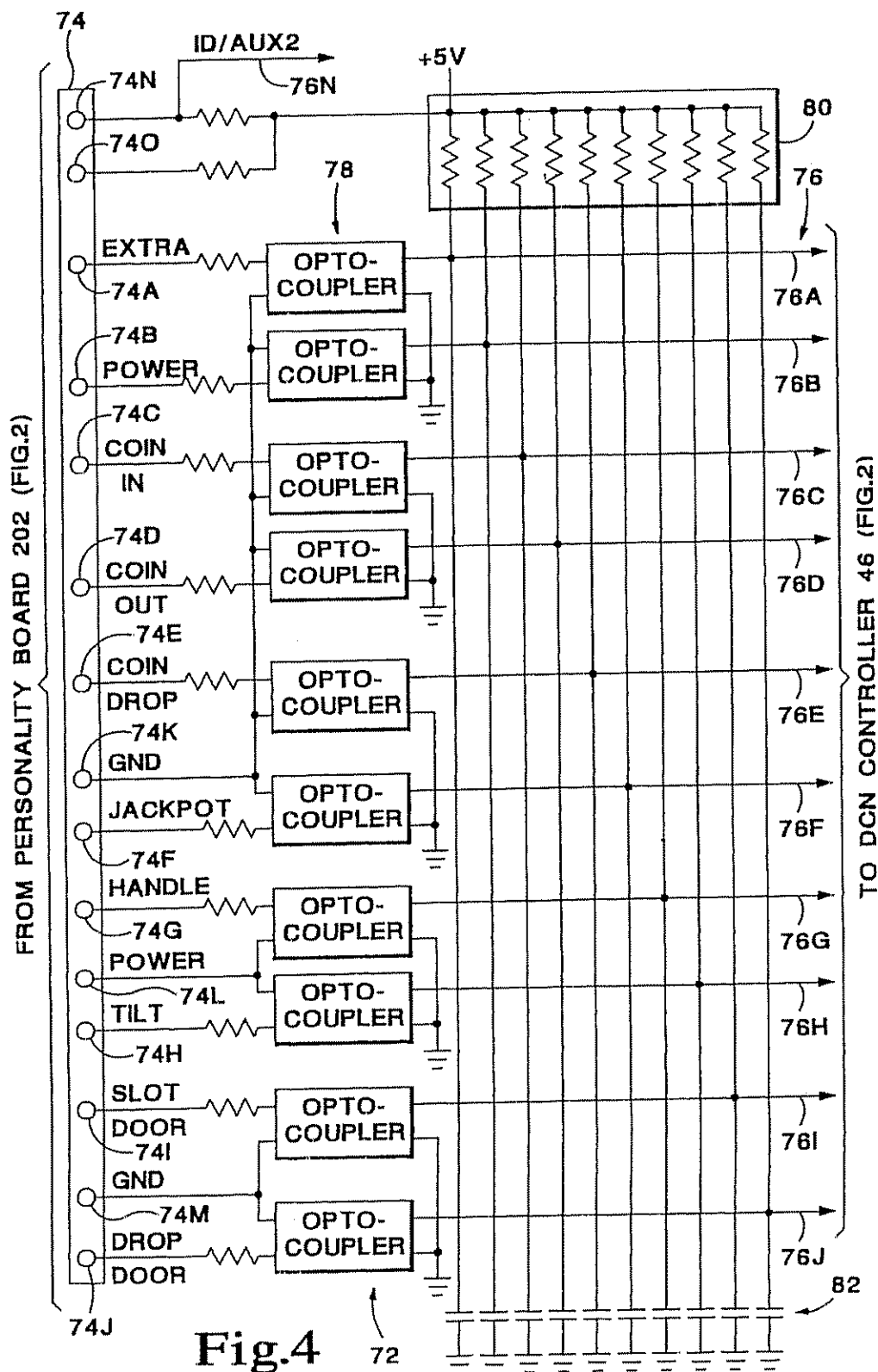


Fig.2





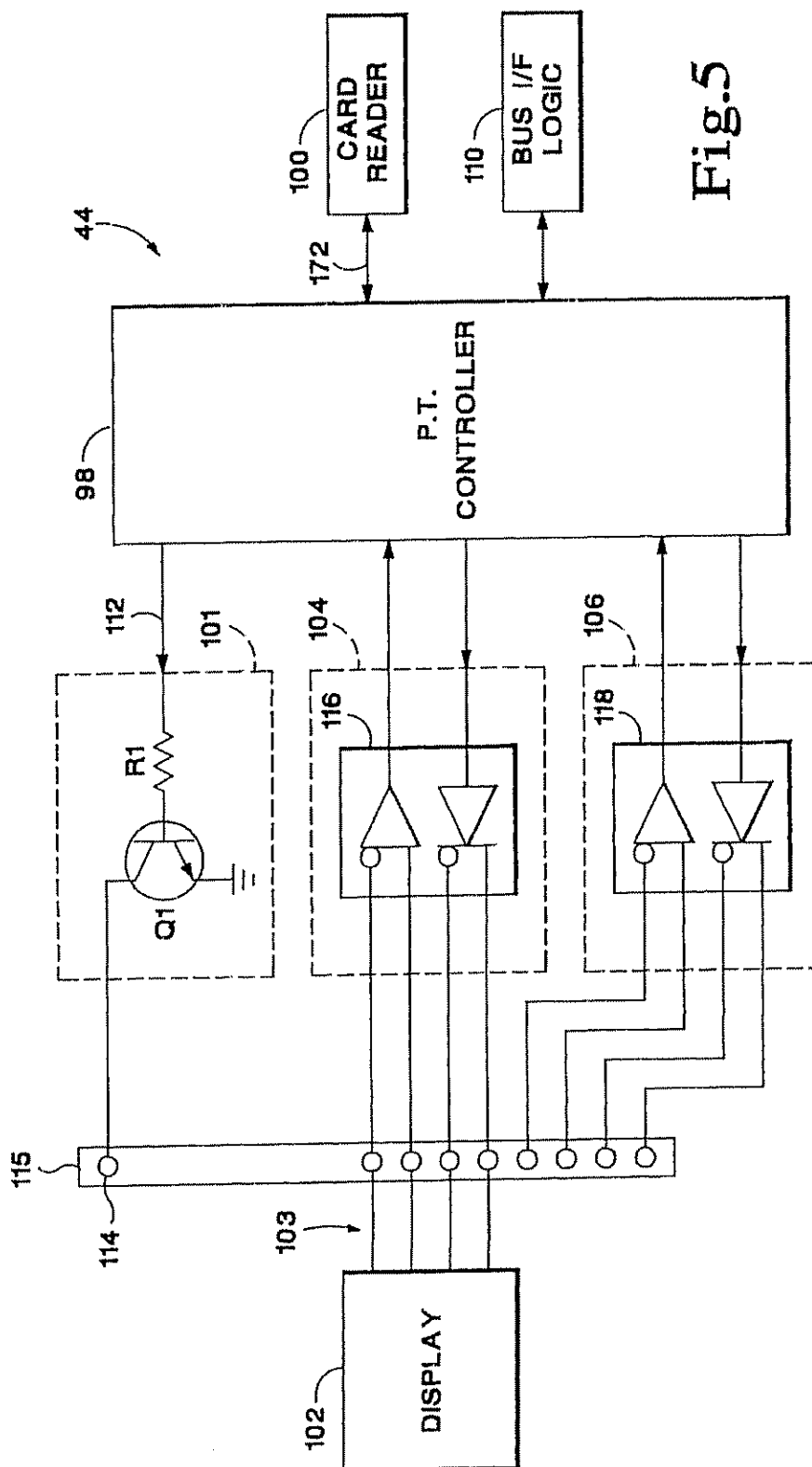
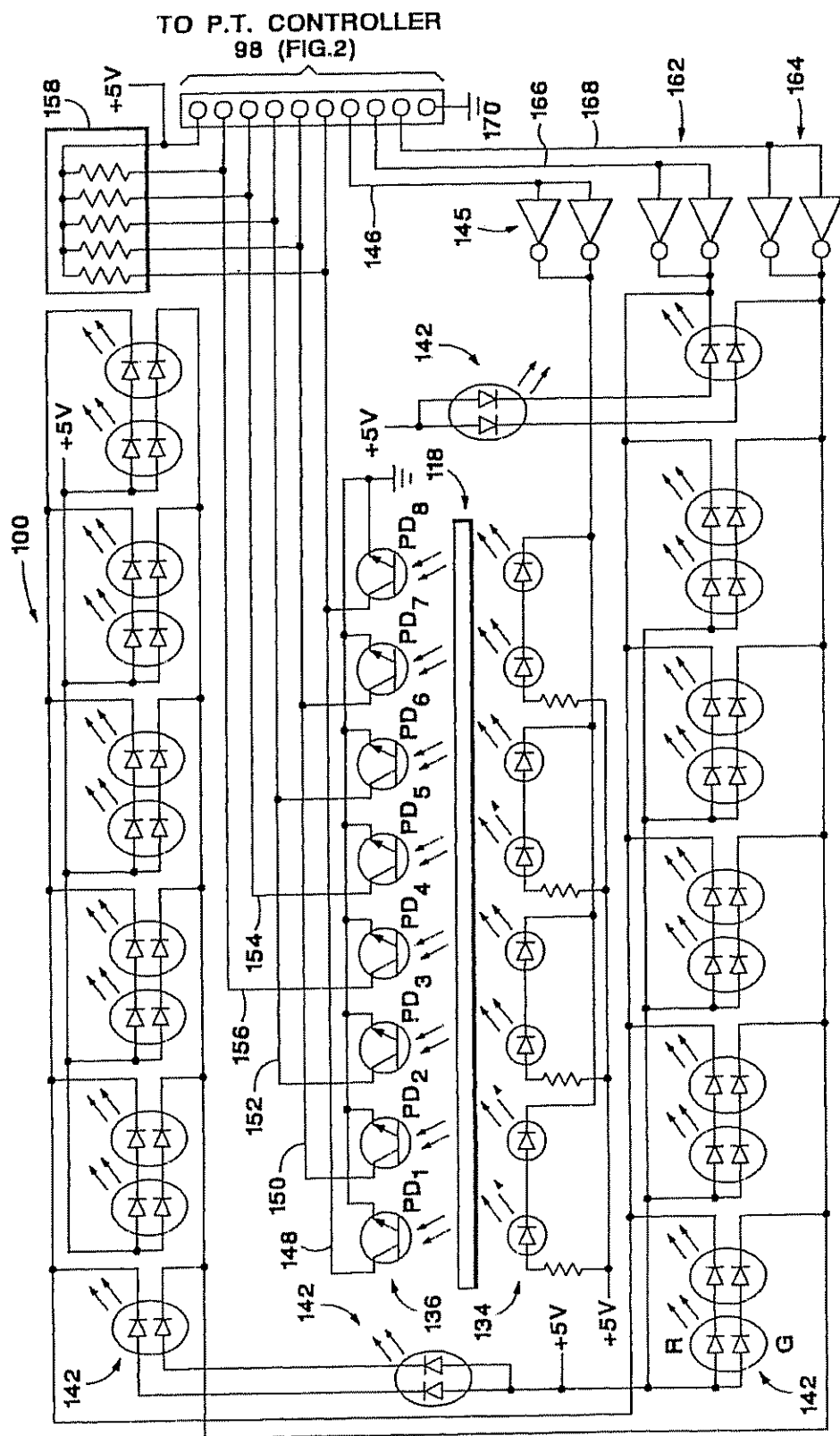
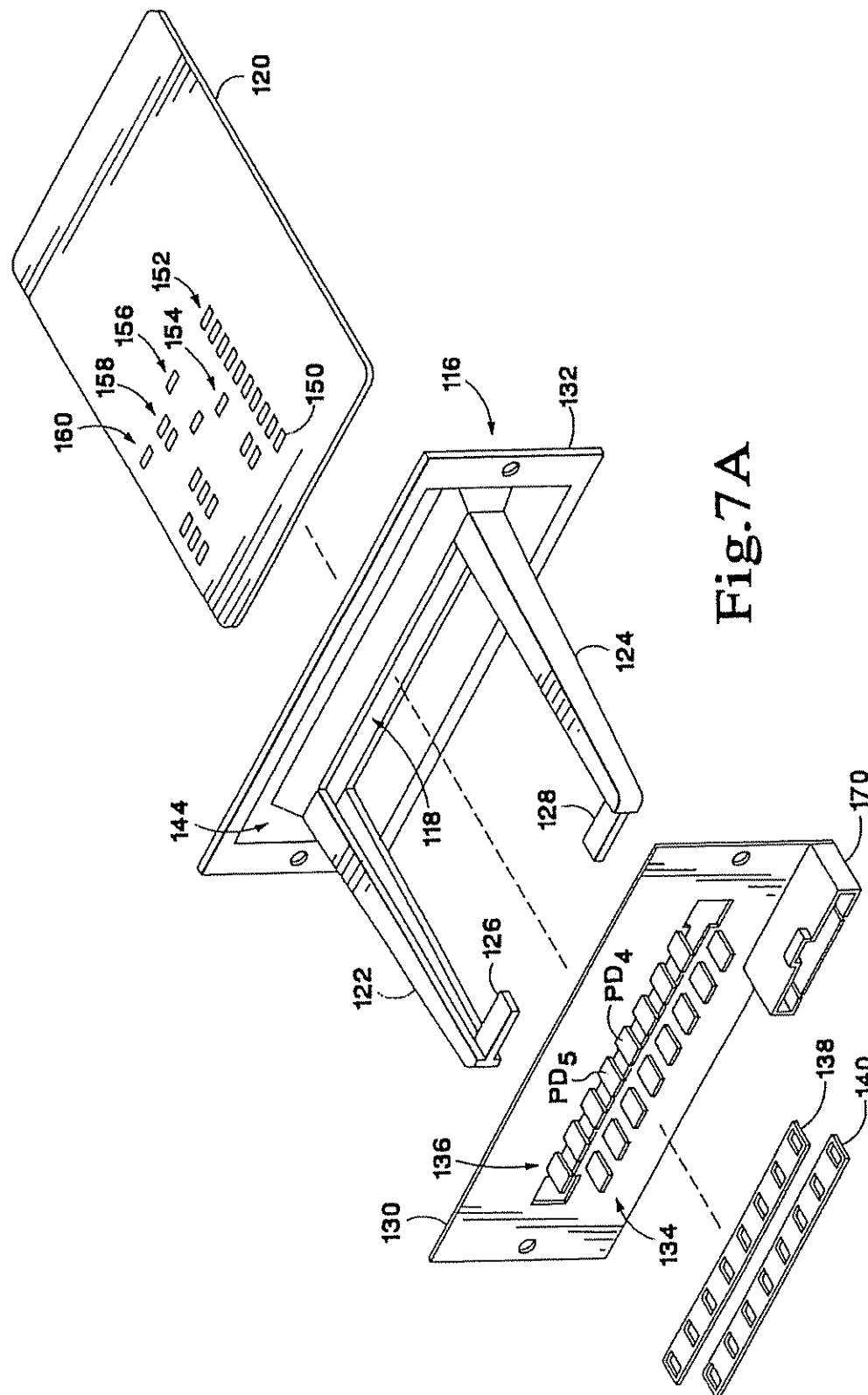


Fig.5



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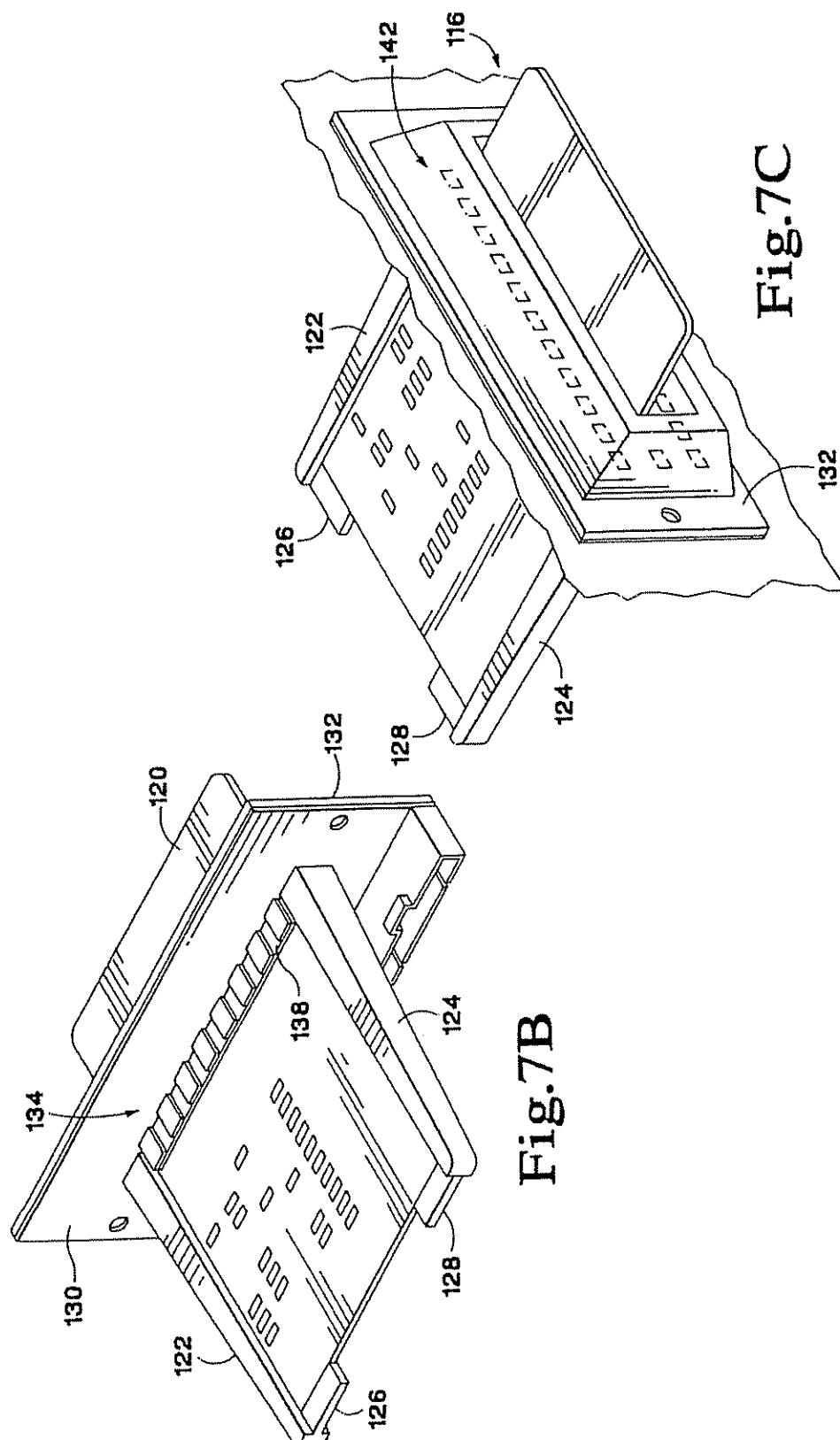


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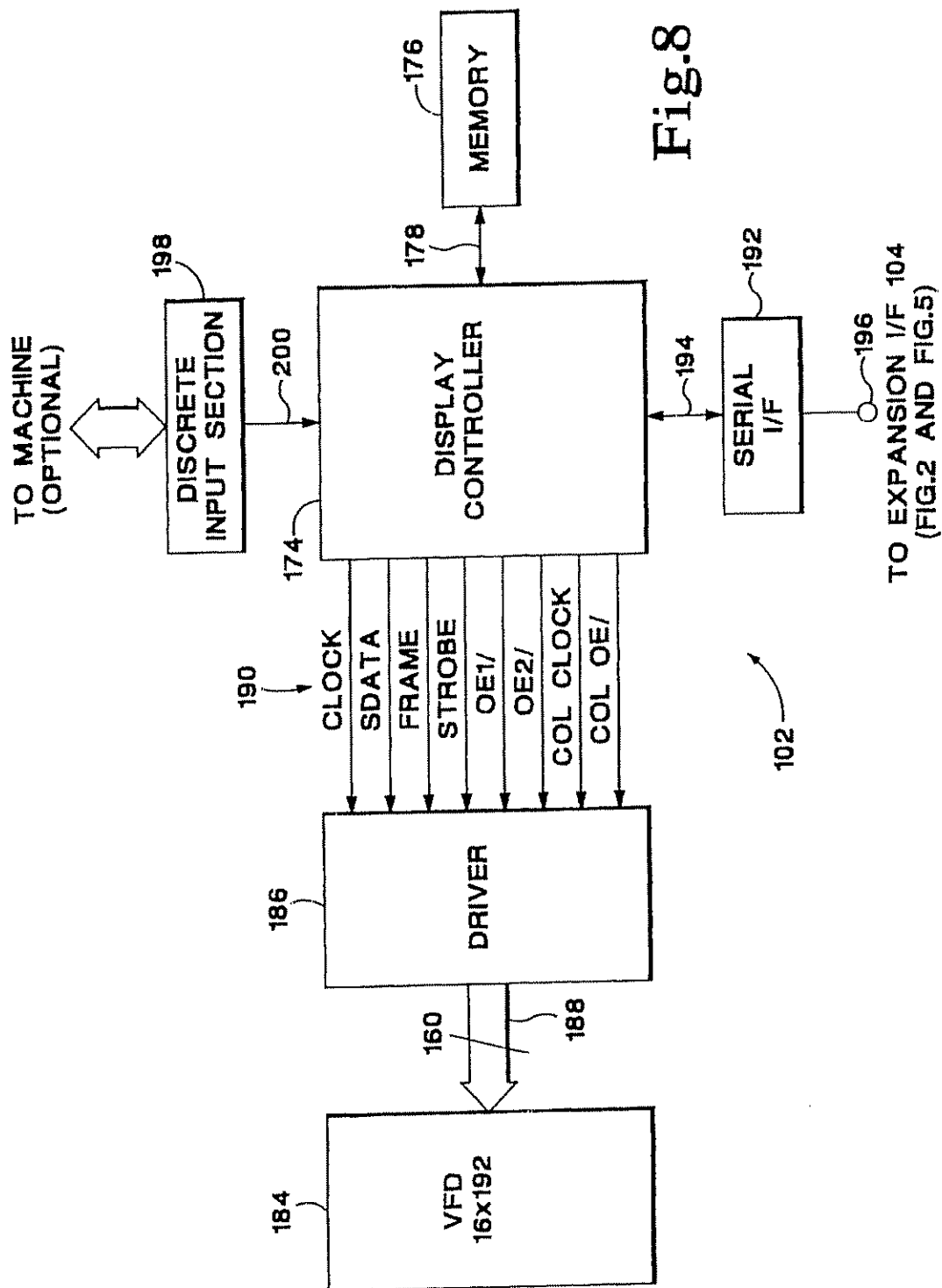


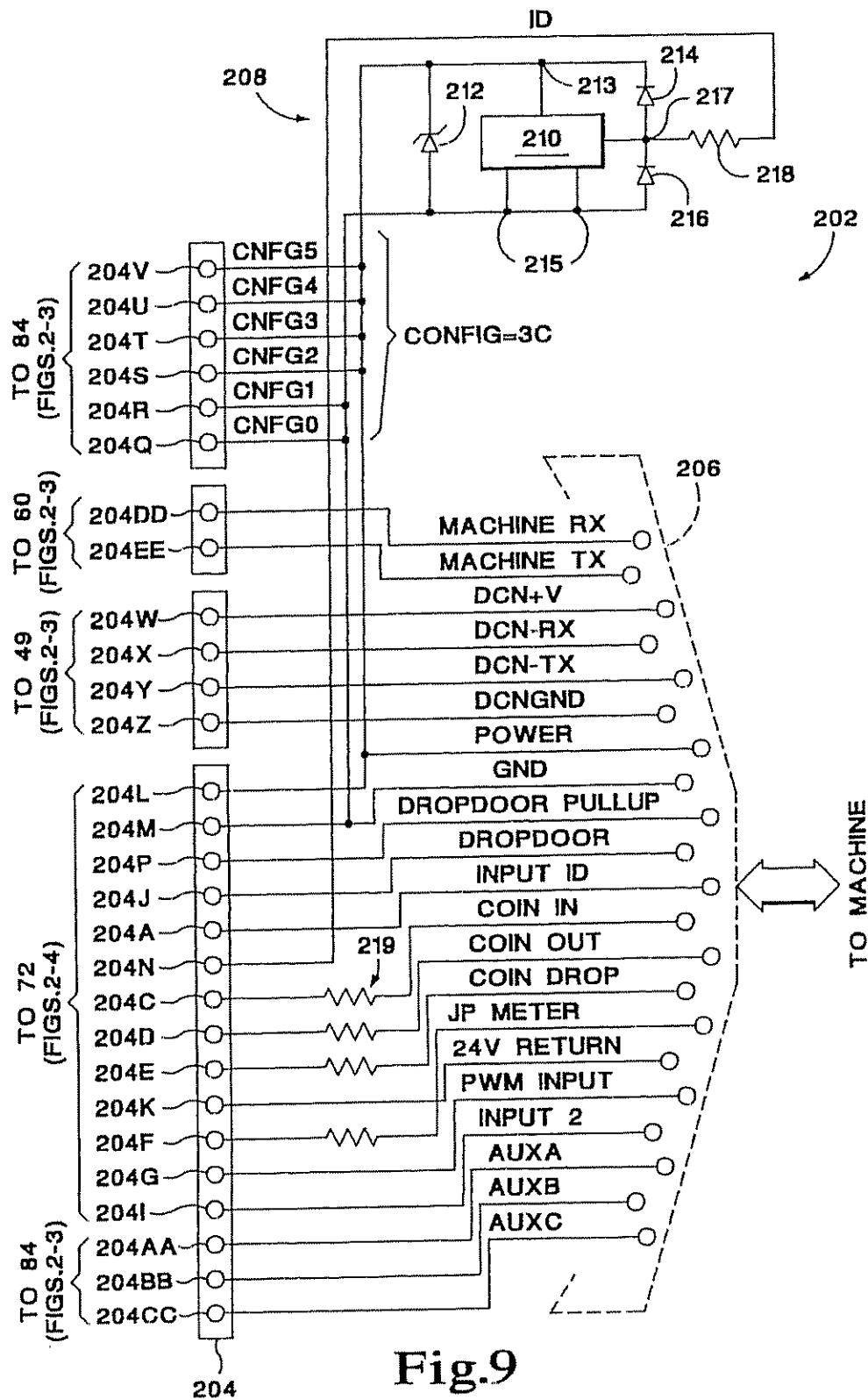
Fig. 8

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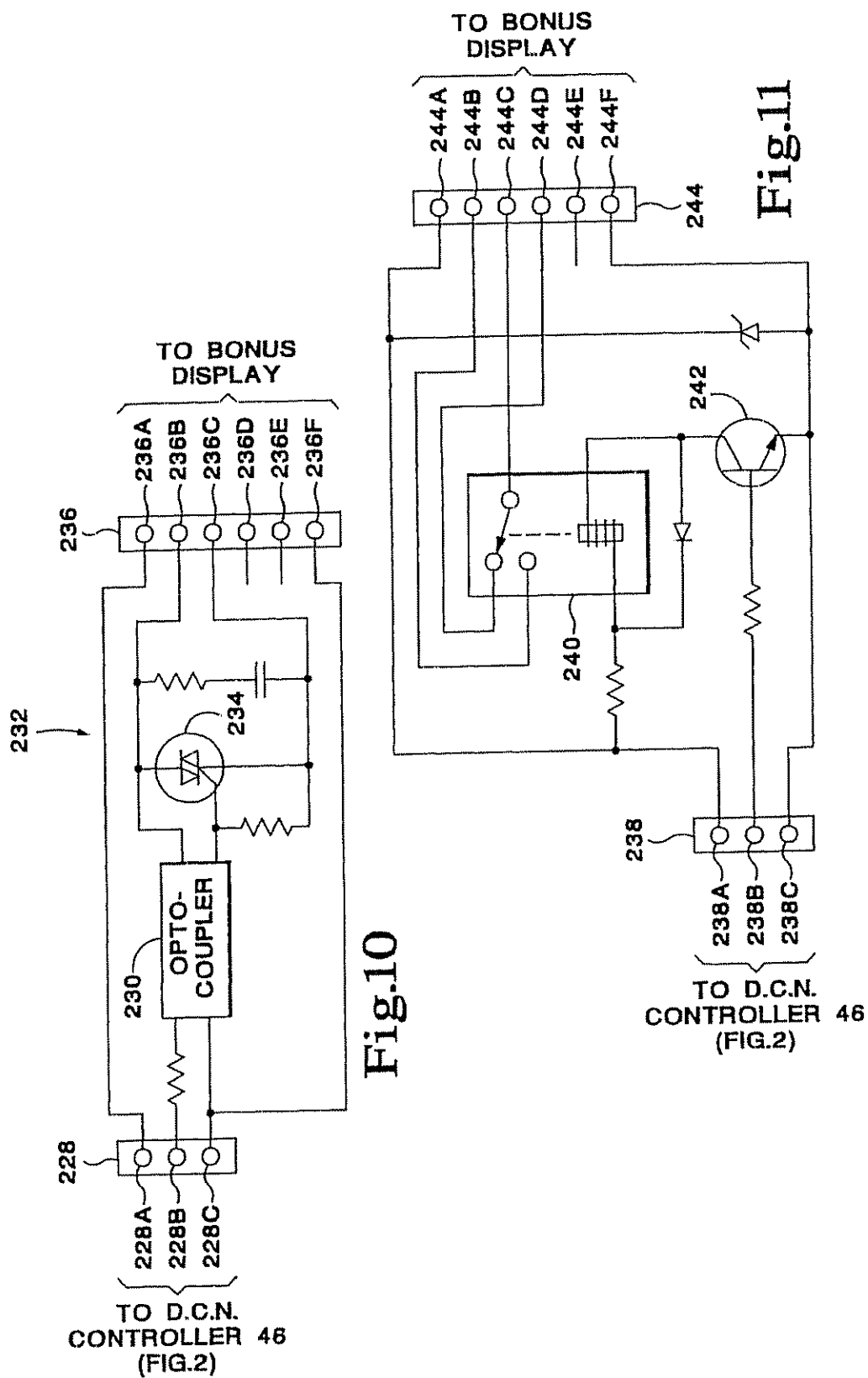


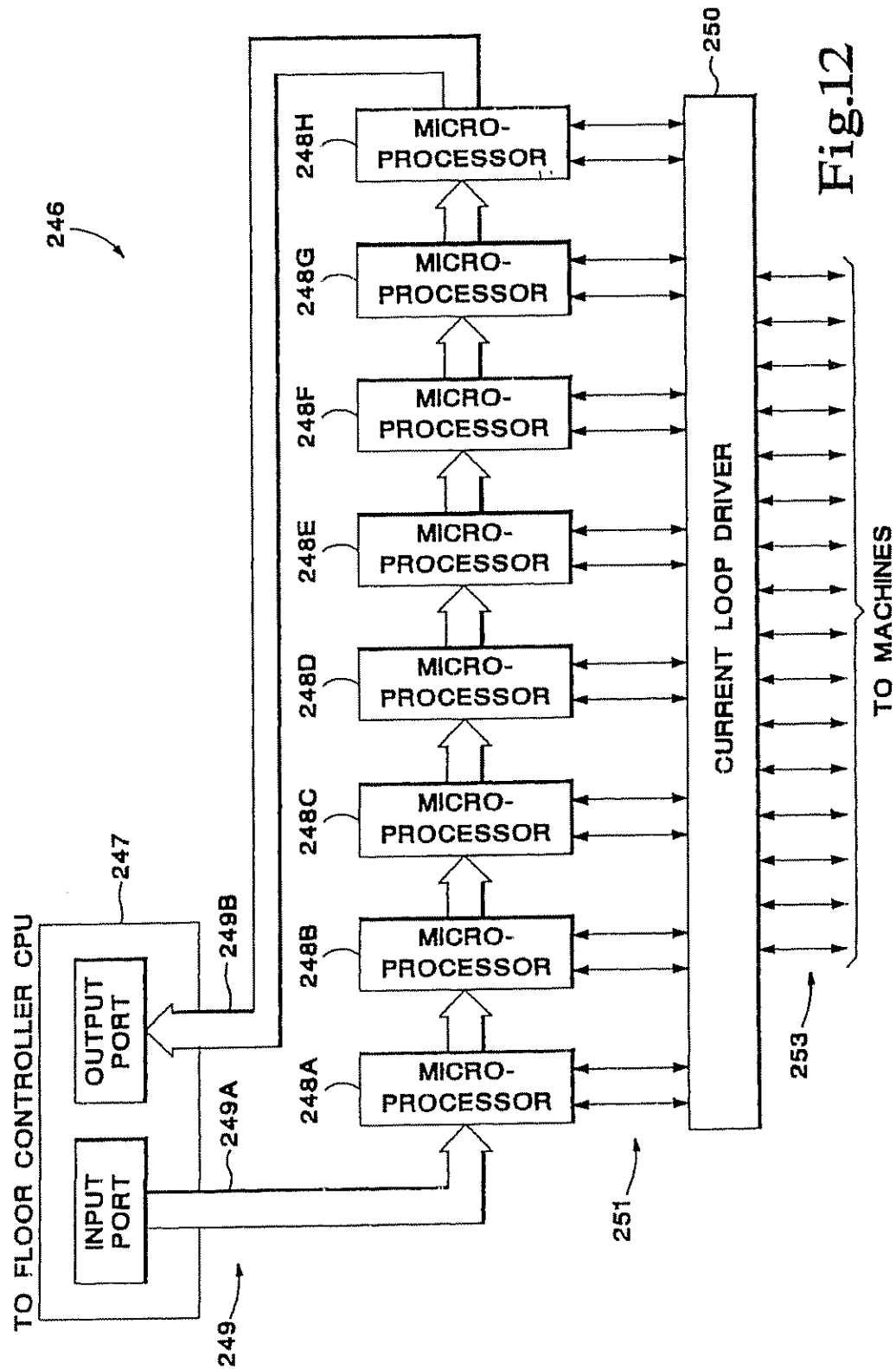
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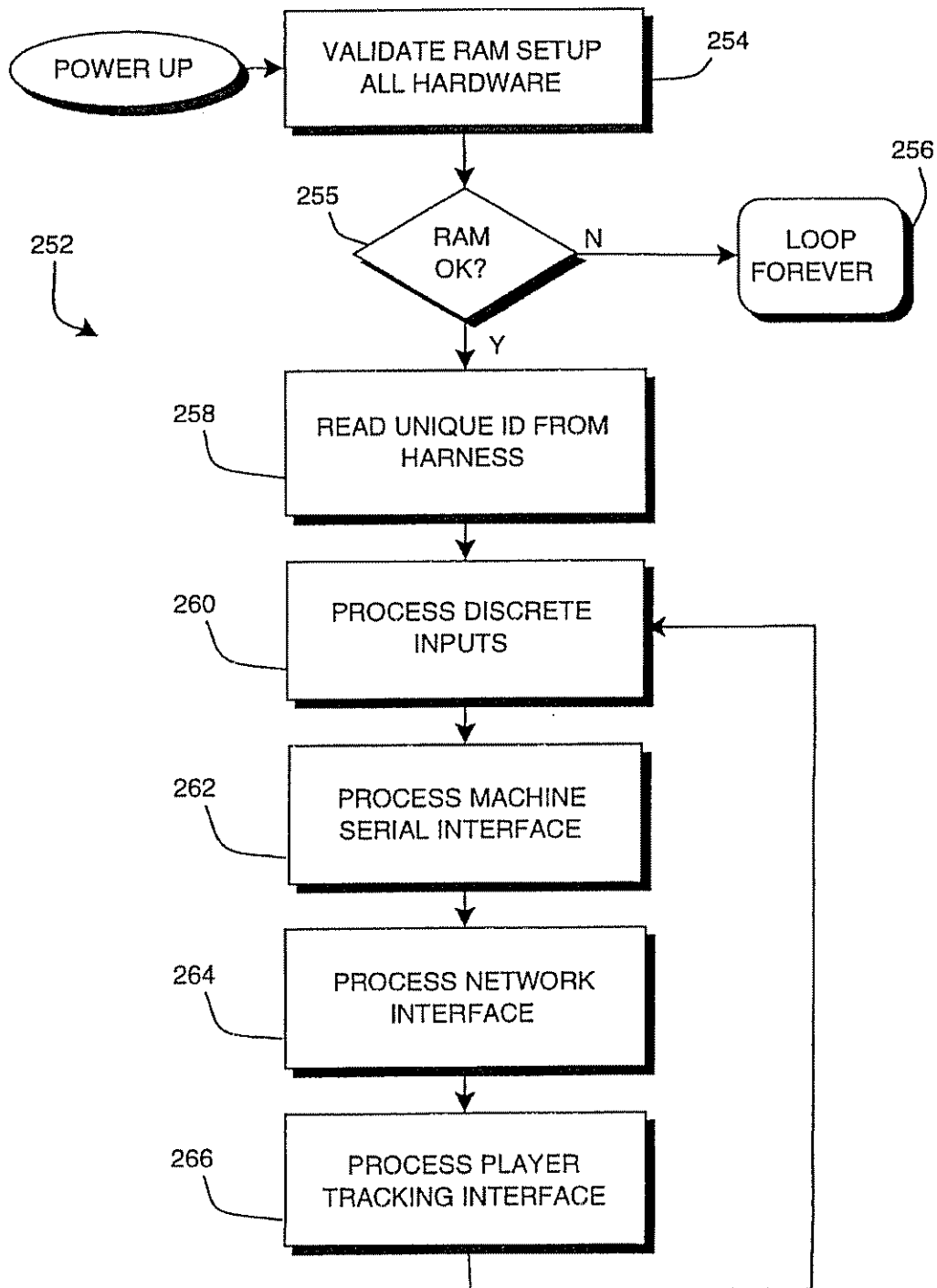


Fig.13

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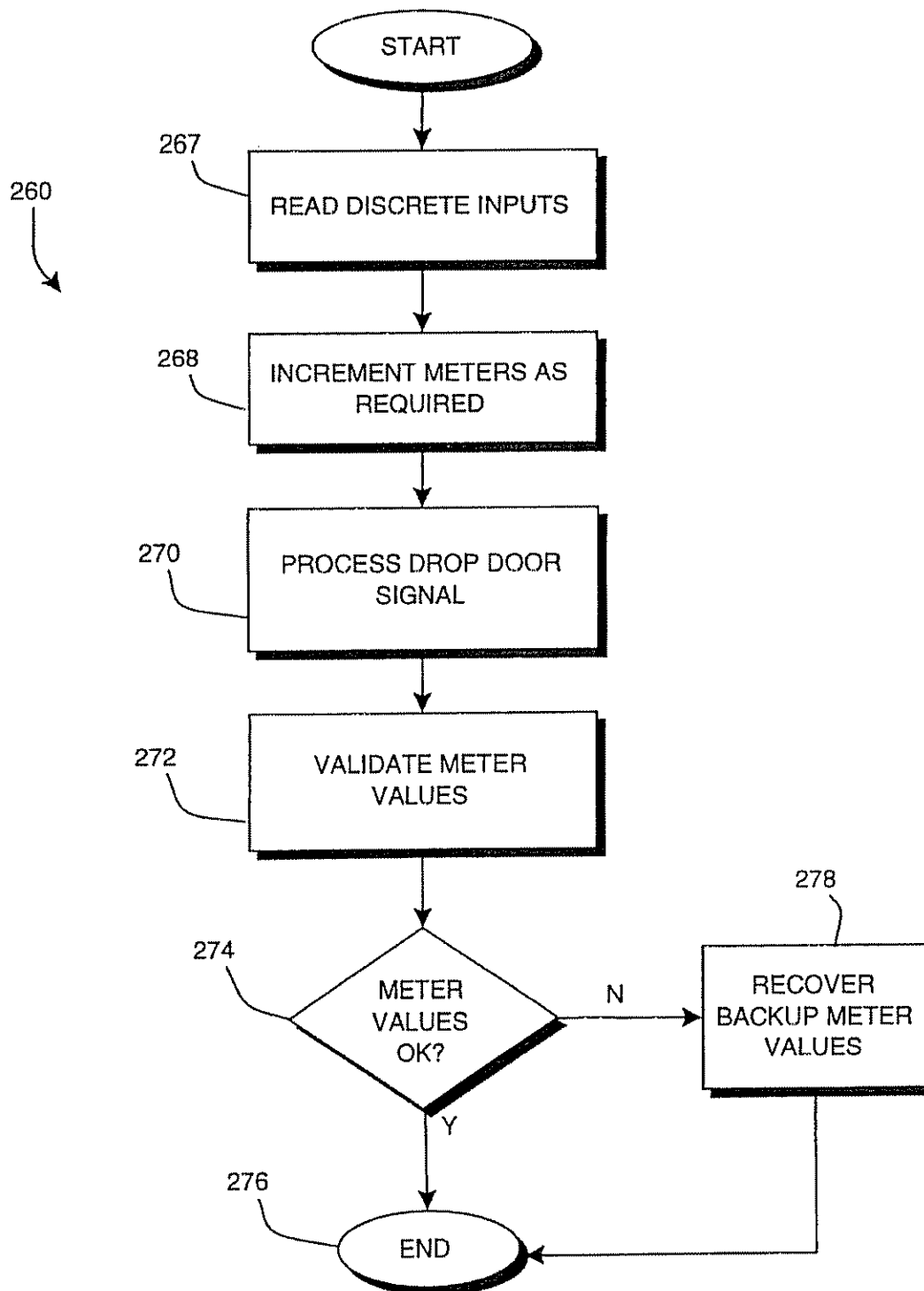


Fig.14

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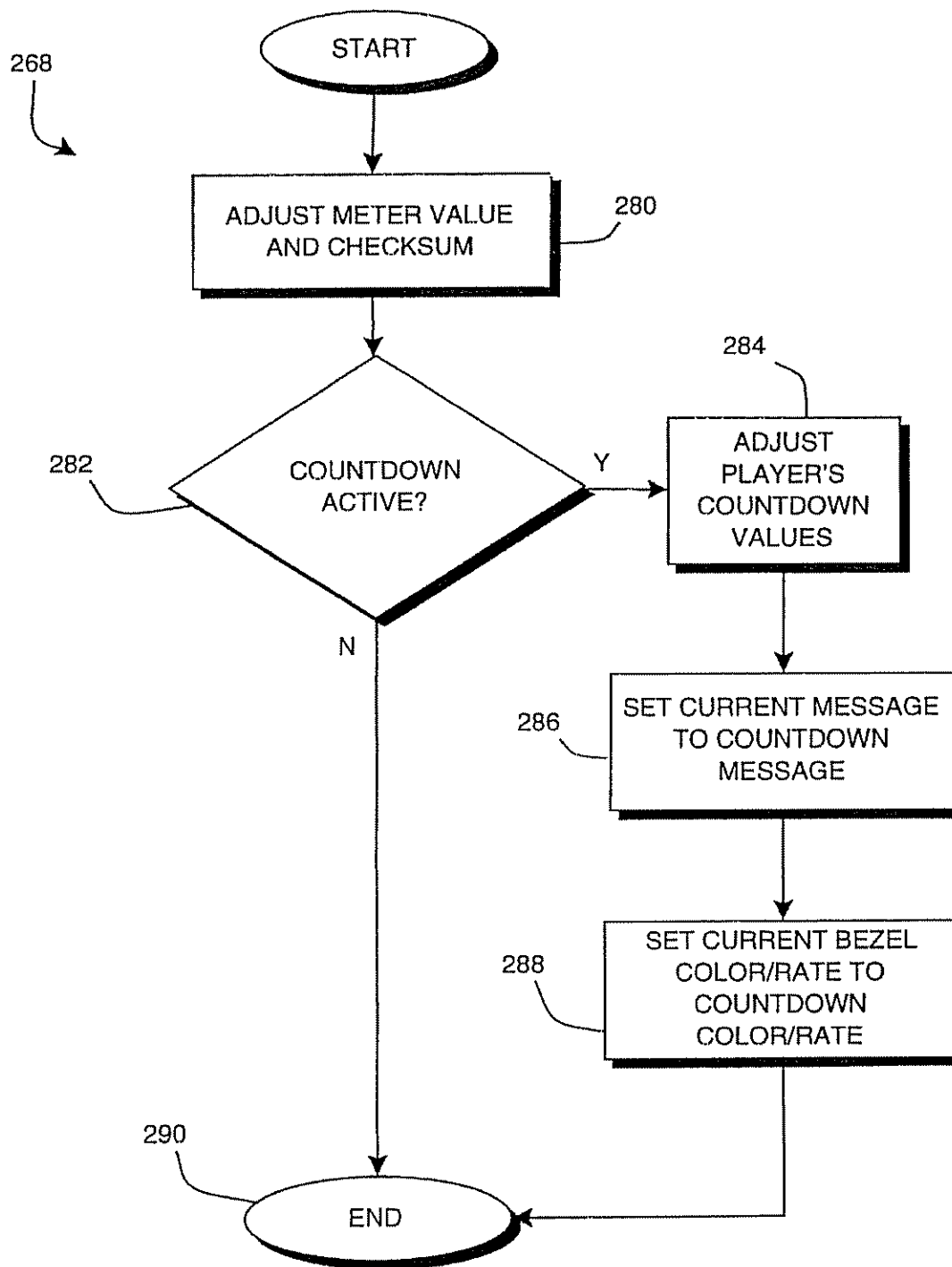


Fig.15

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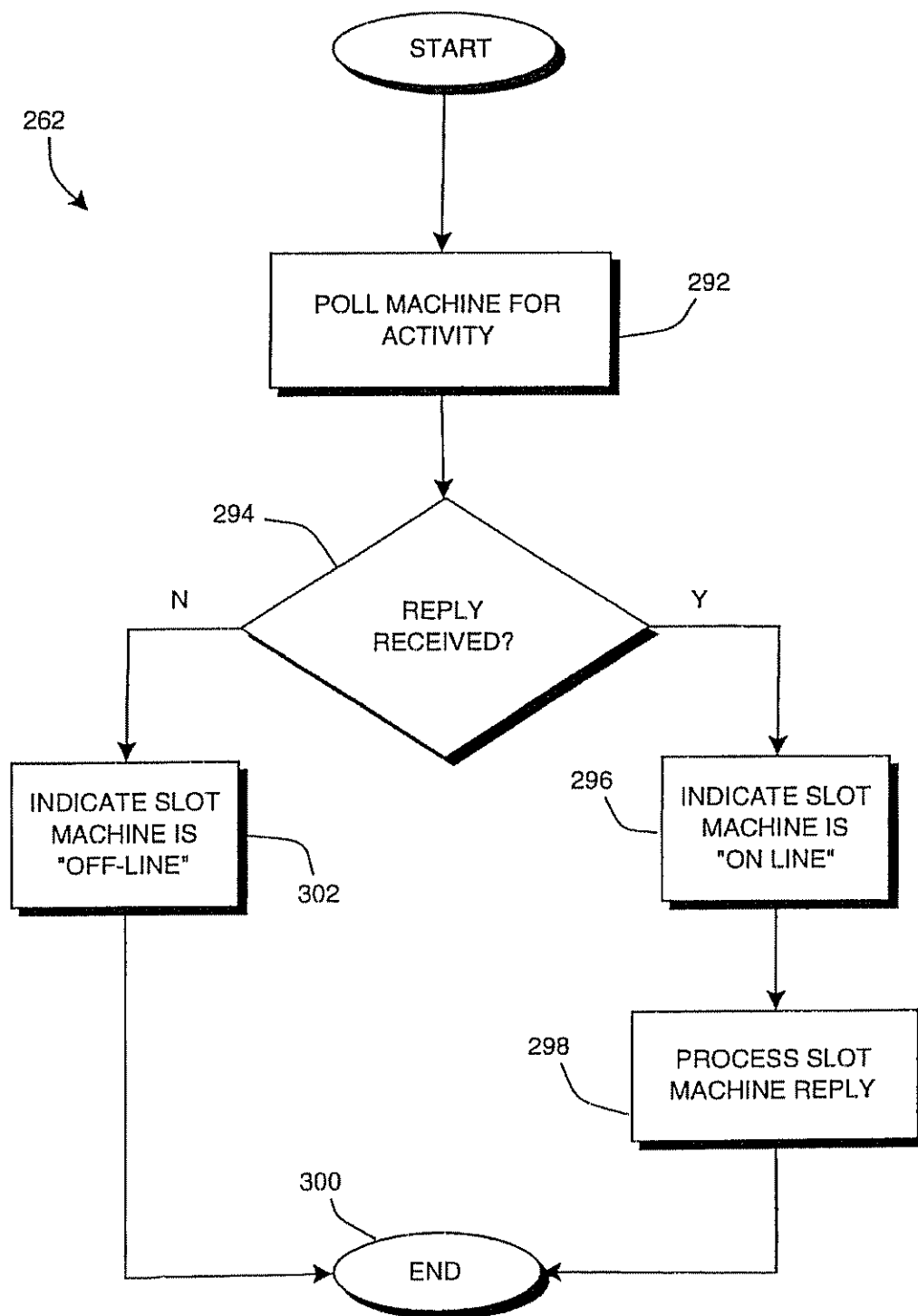


Fig.16

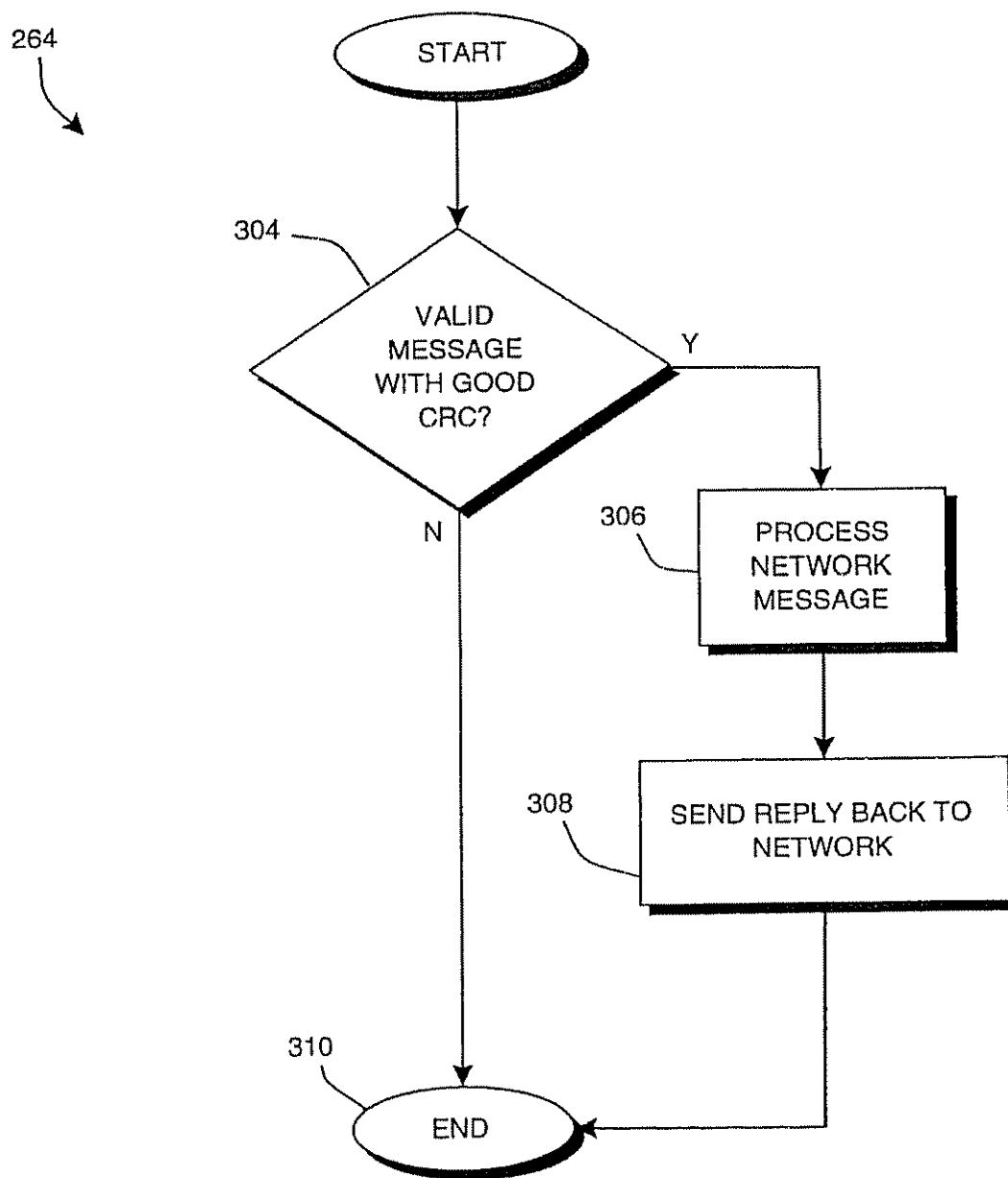


Fig.17

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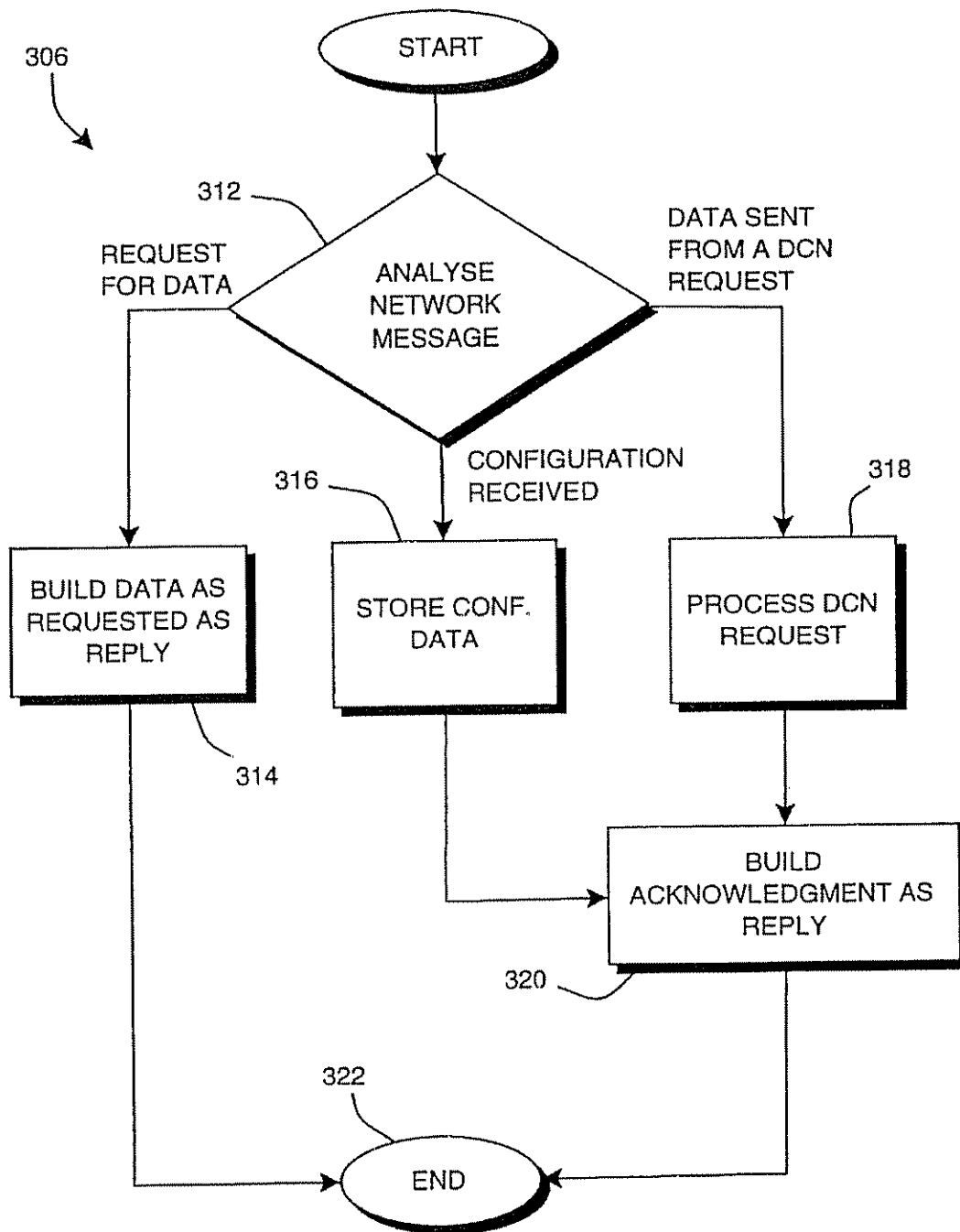


Fig.18

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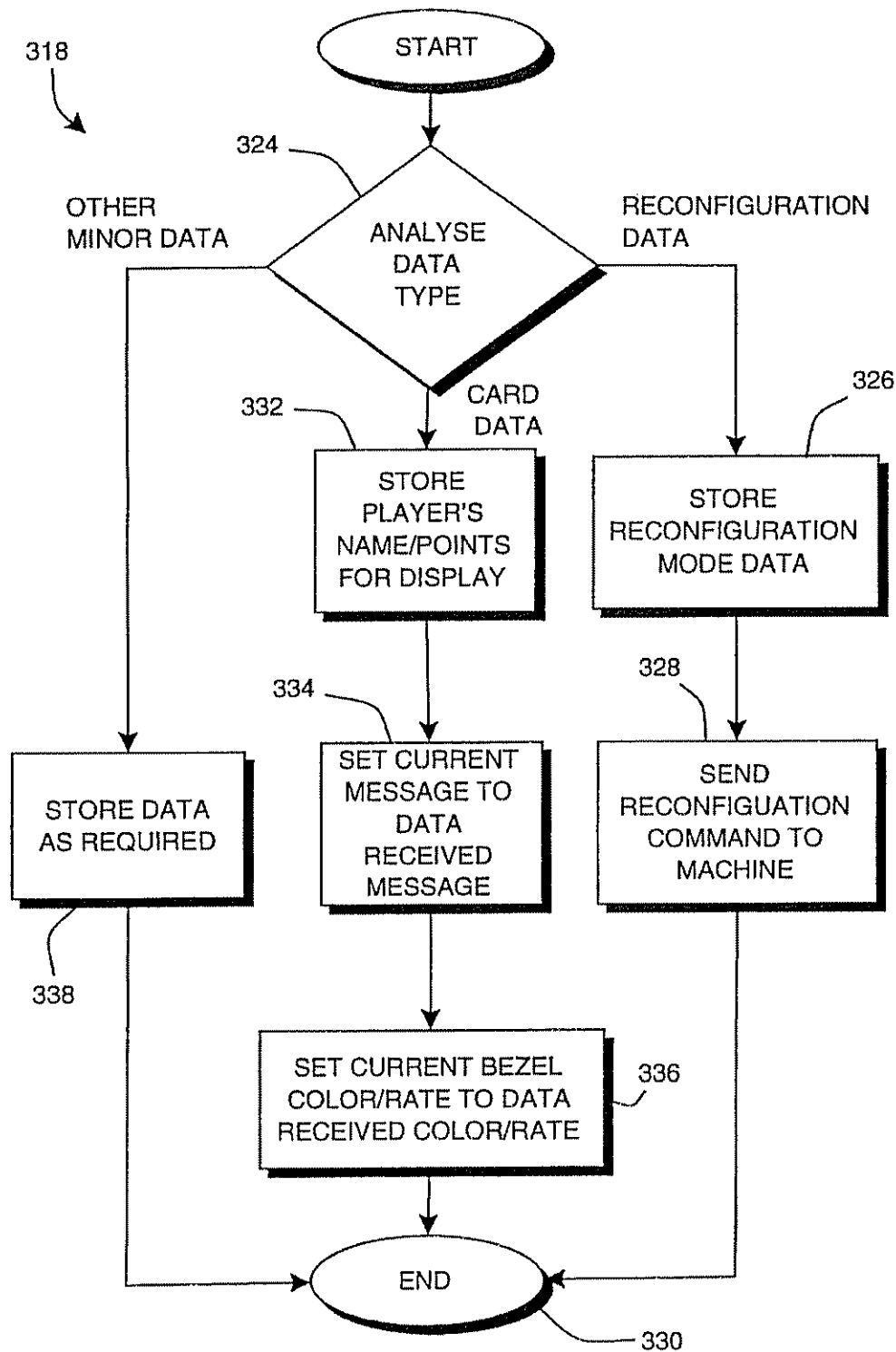


Fig.19

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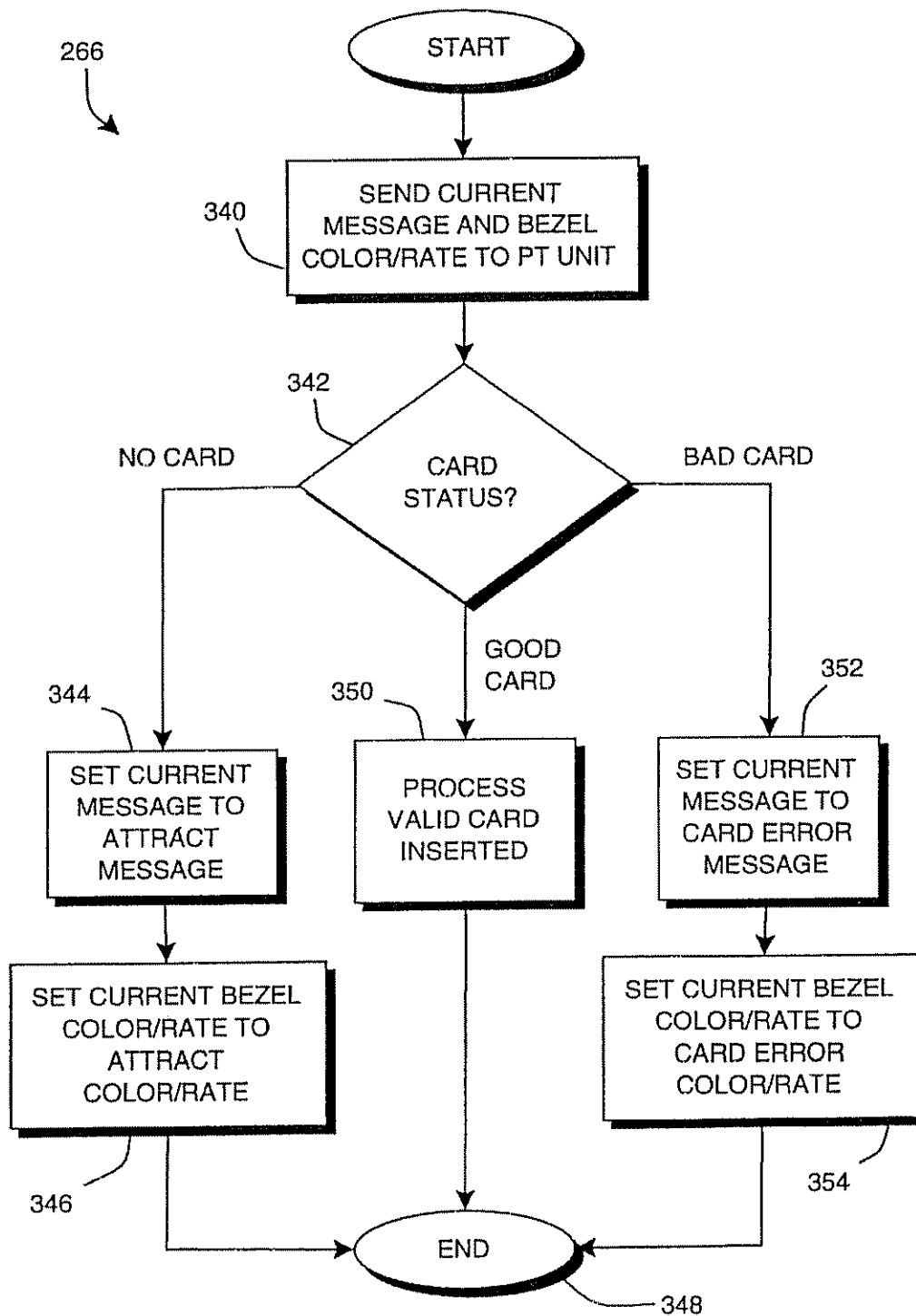


Fig.20

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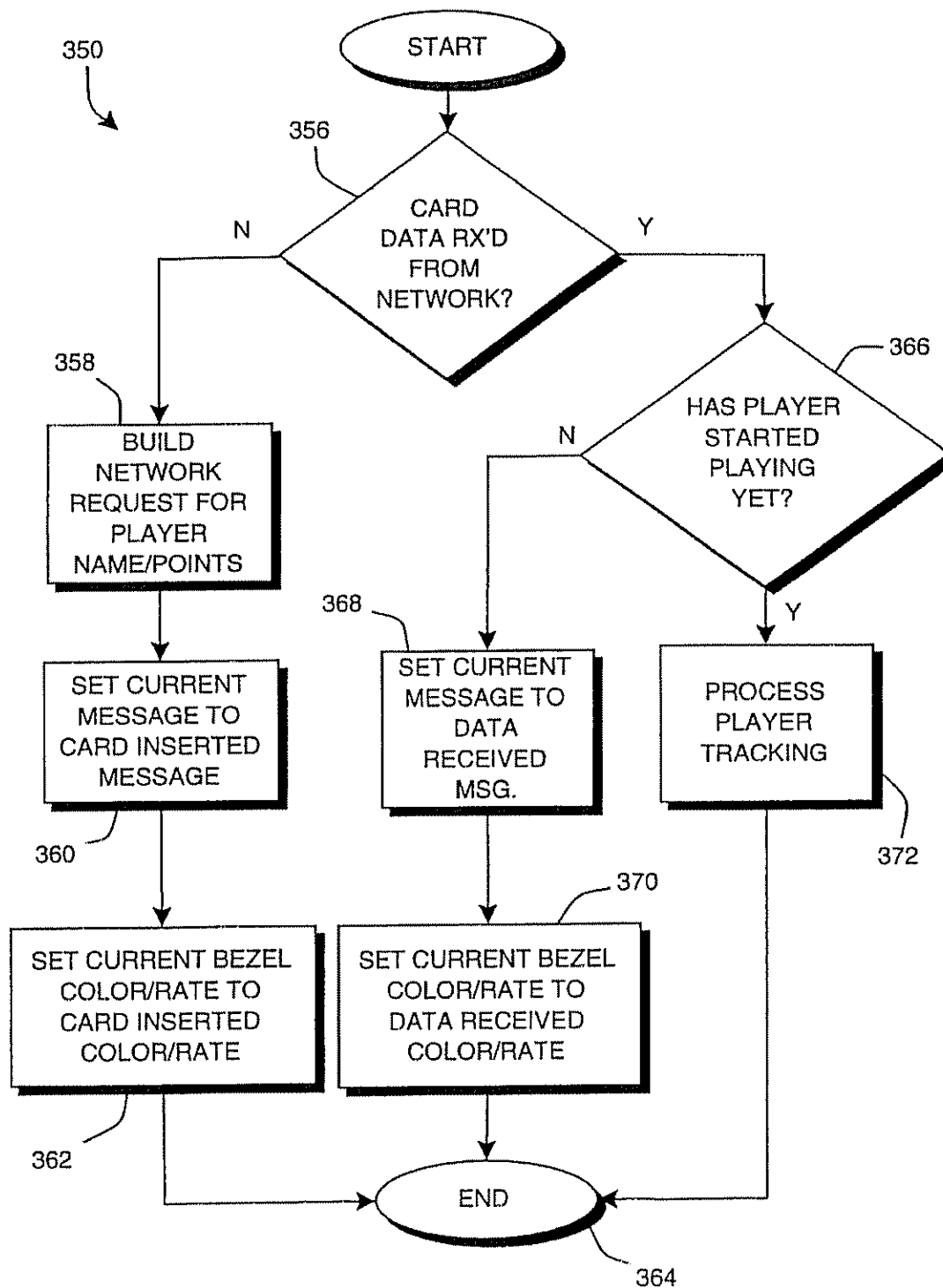


Fig.21

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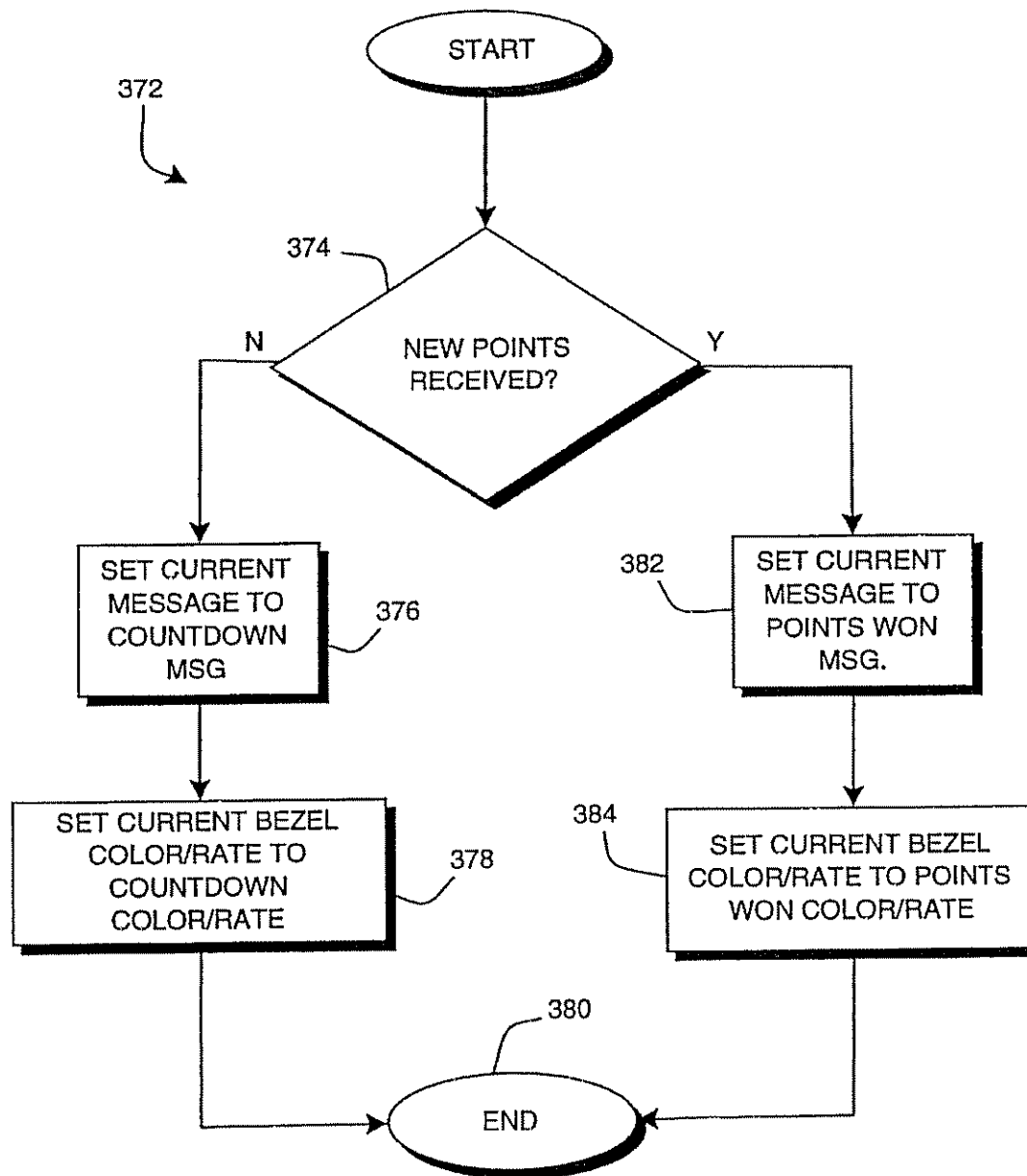


Fig.22

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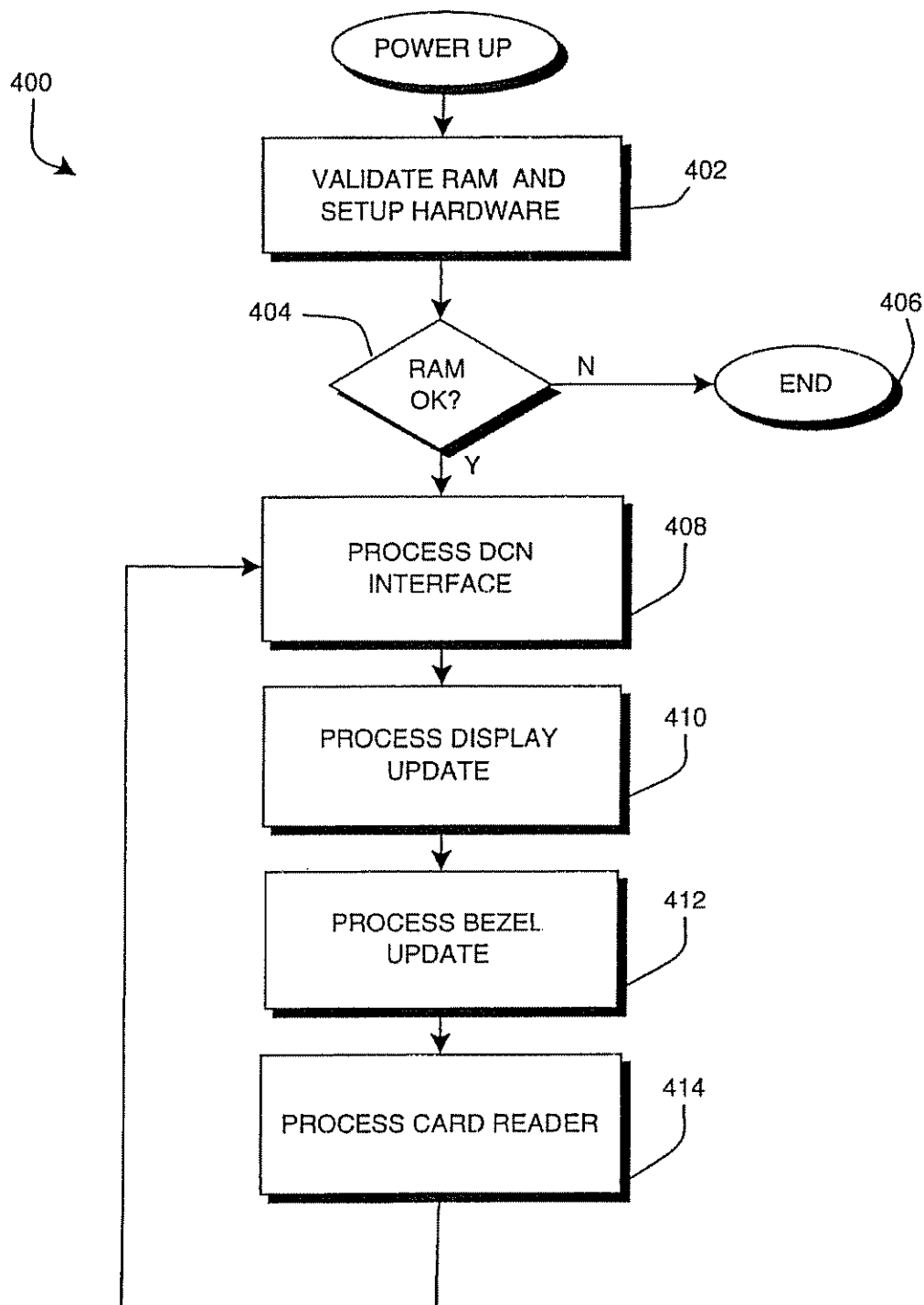


Fig.23

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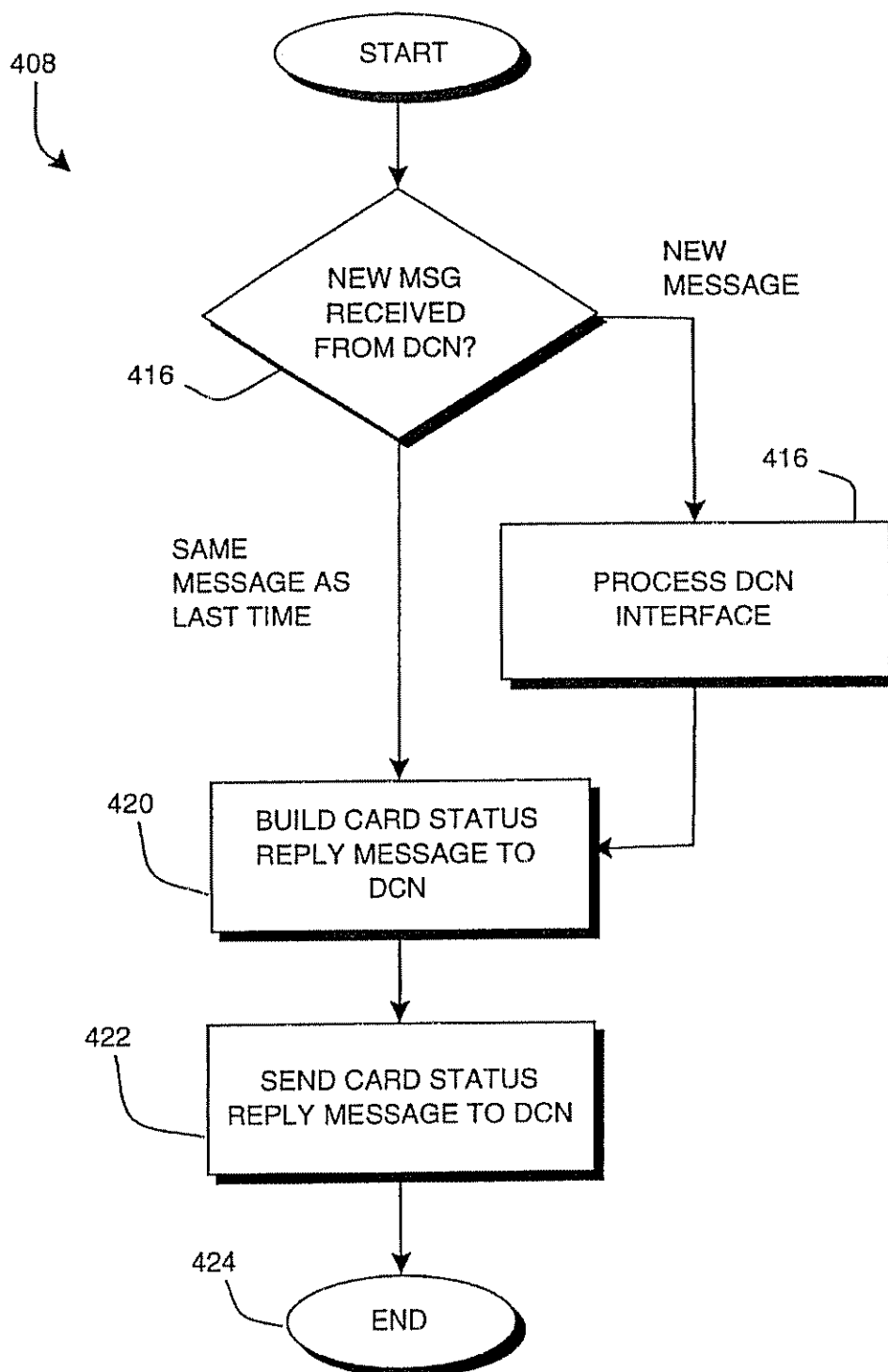


Fig.24

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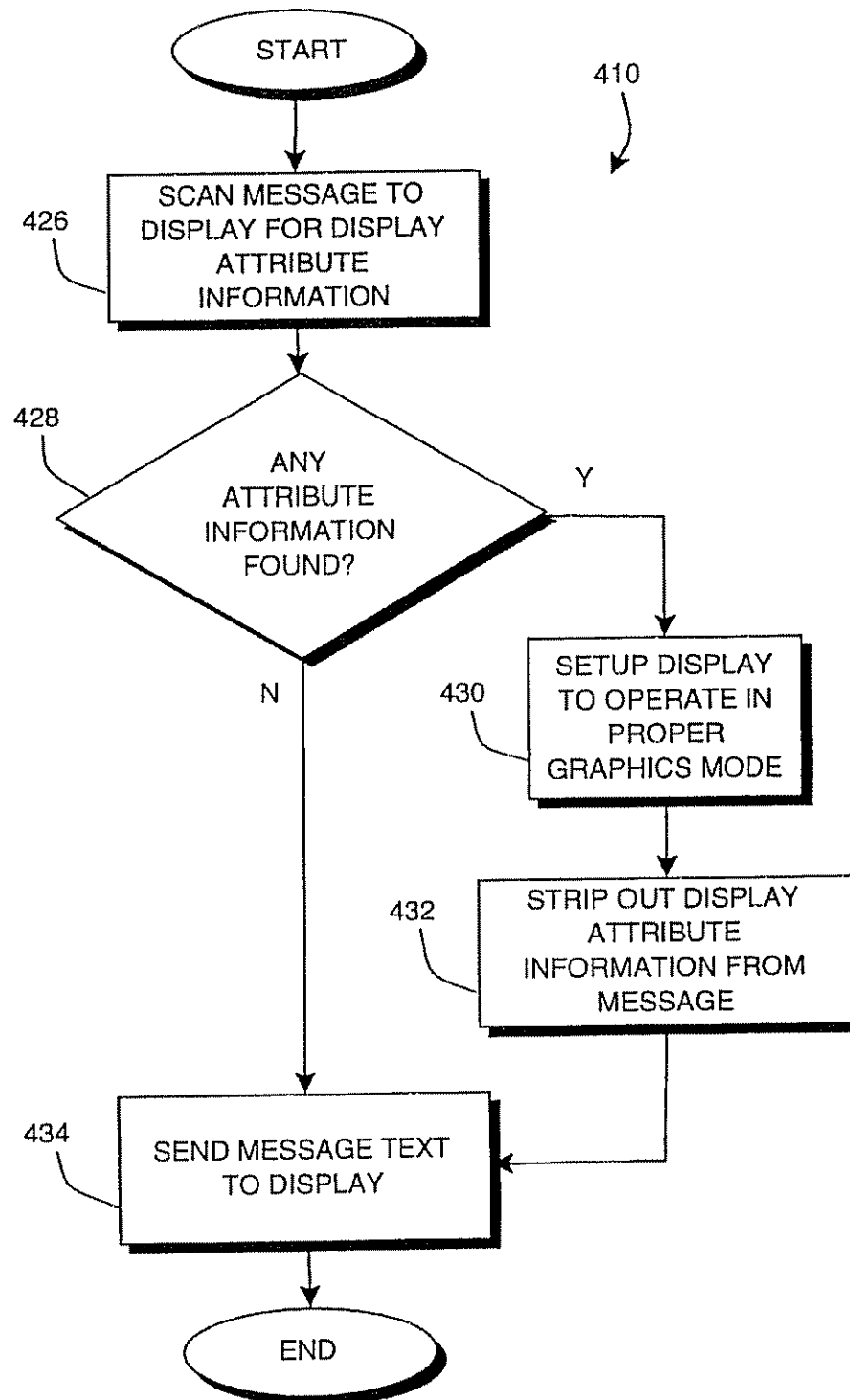


Fig.25

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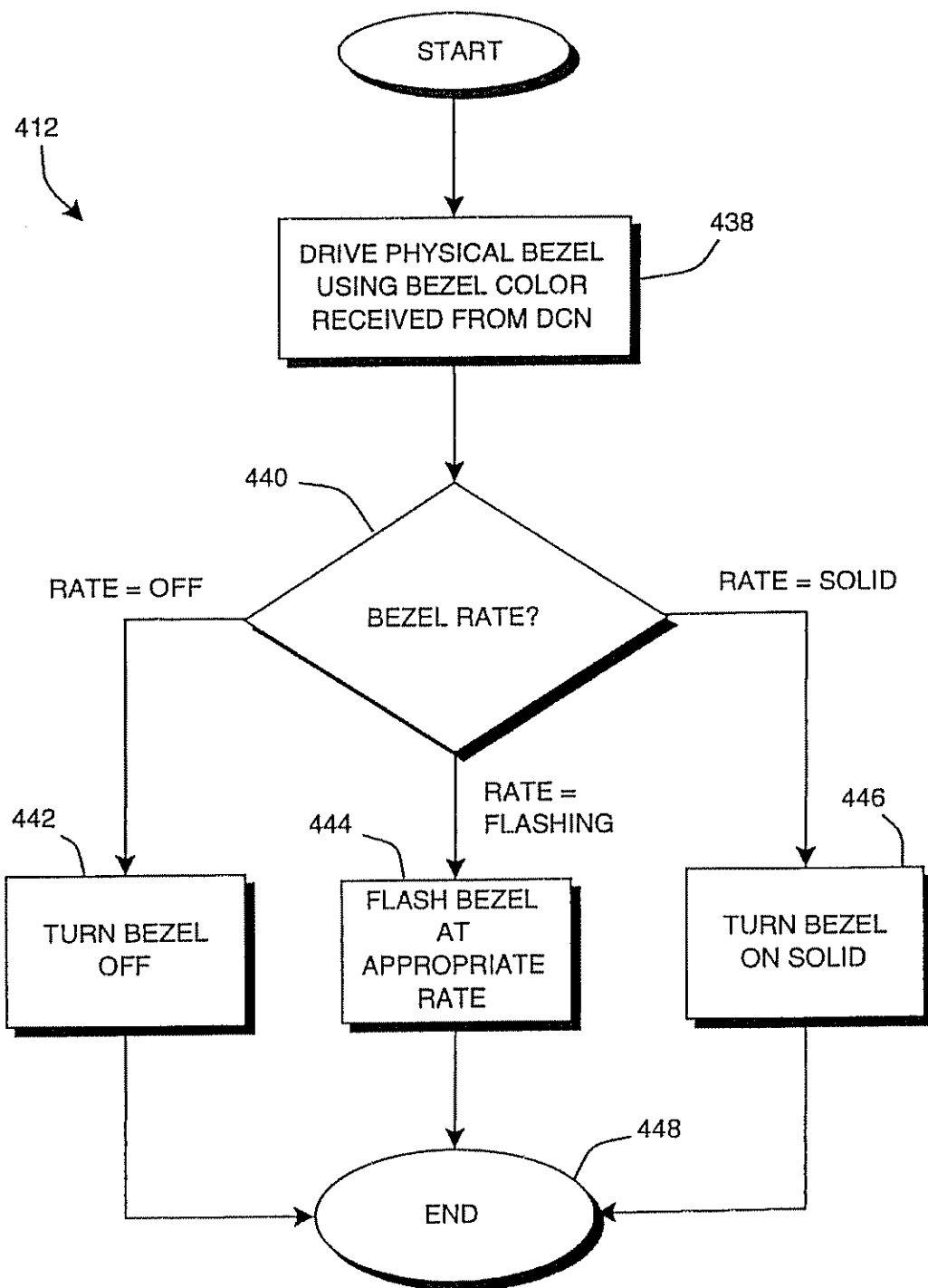


Fig.26

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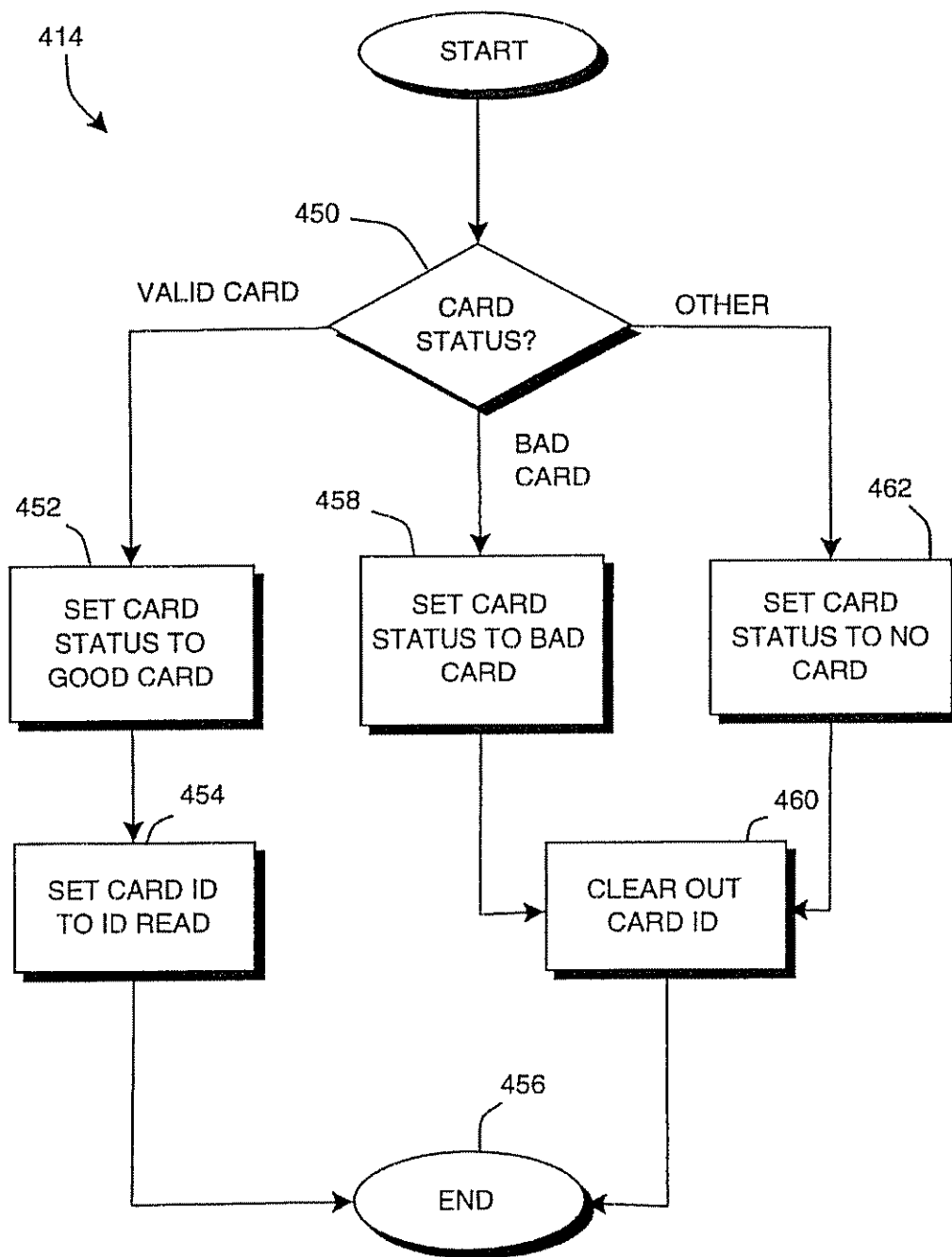


Fig.27

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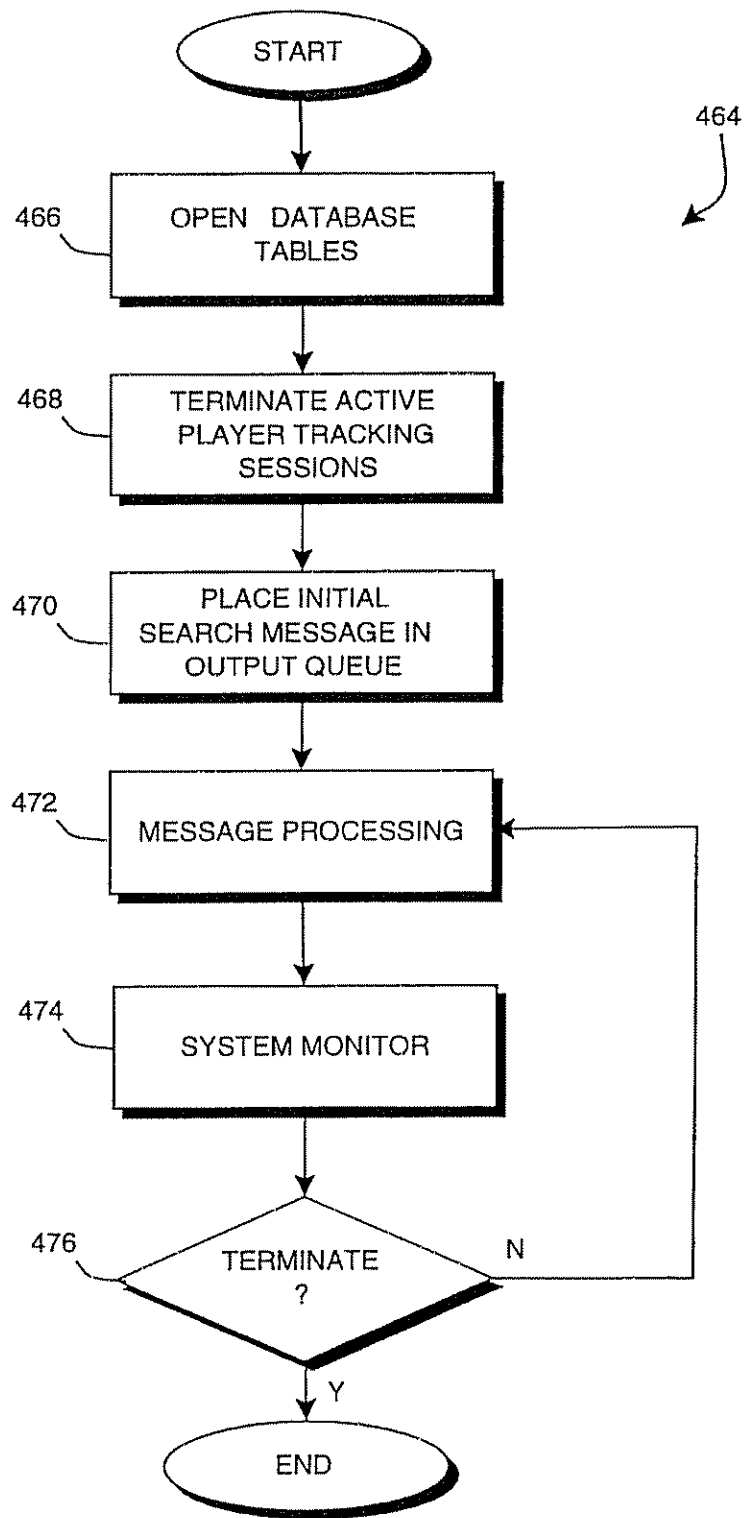


Fig.28

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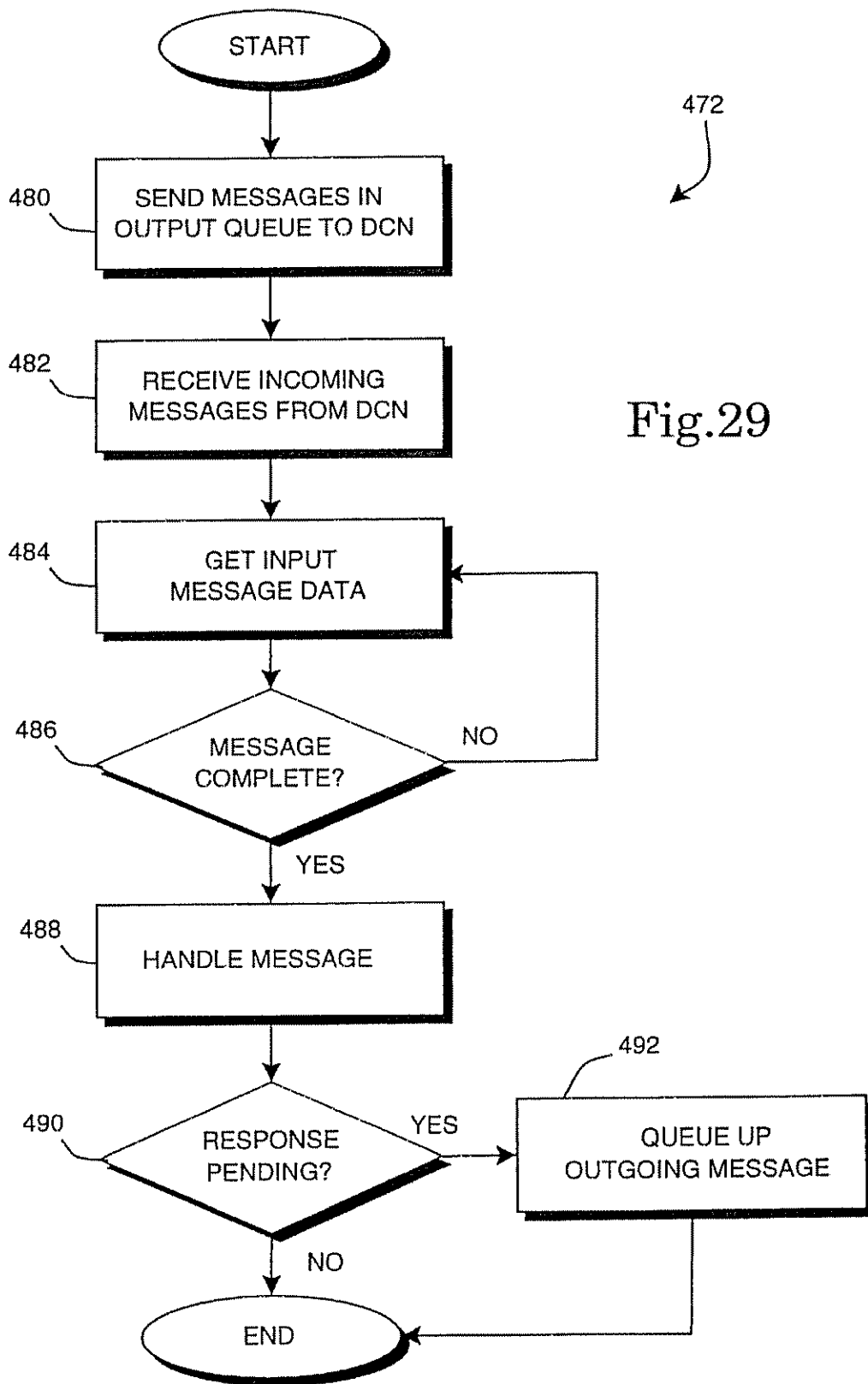
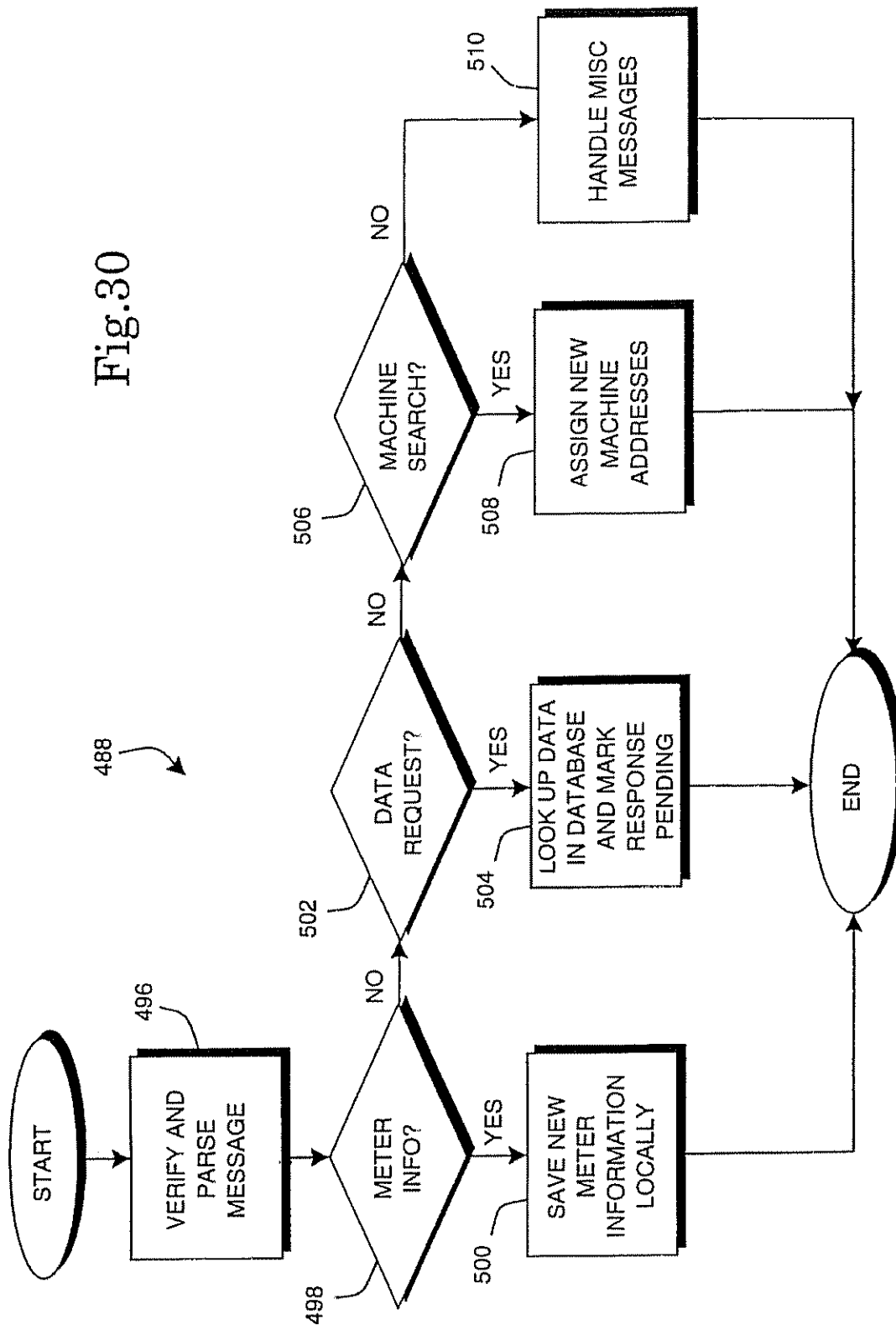


Fig.30



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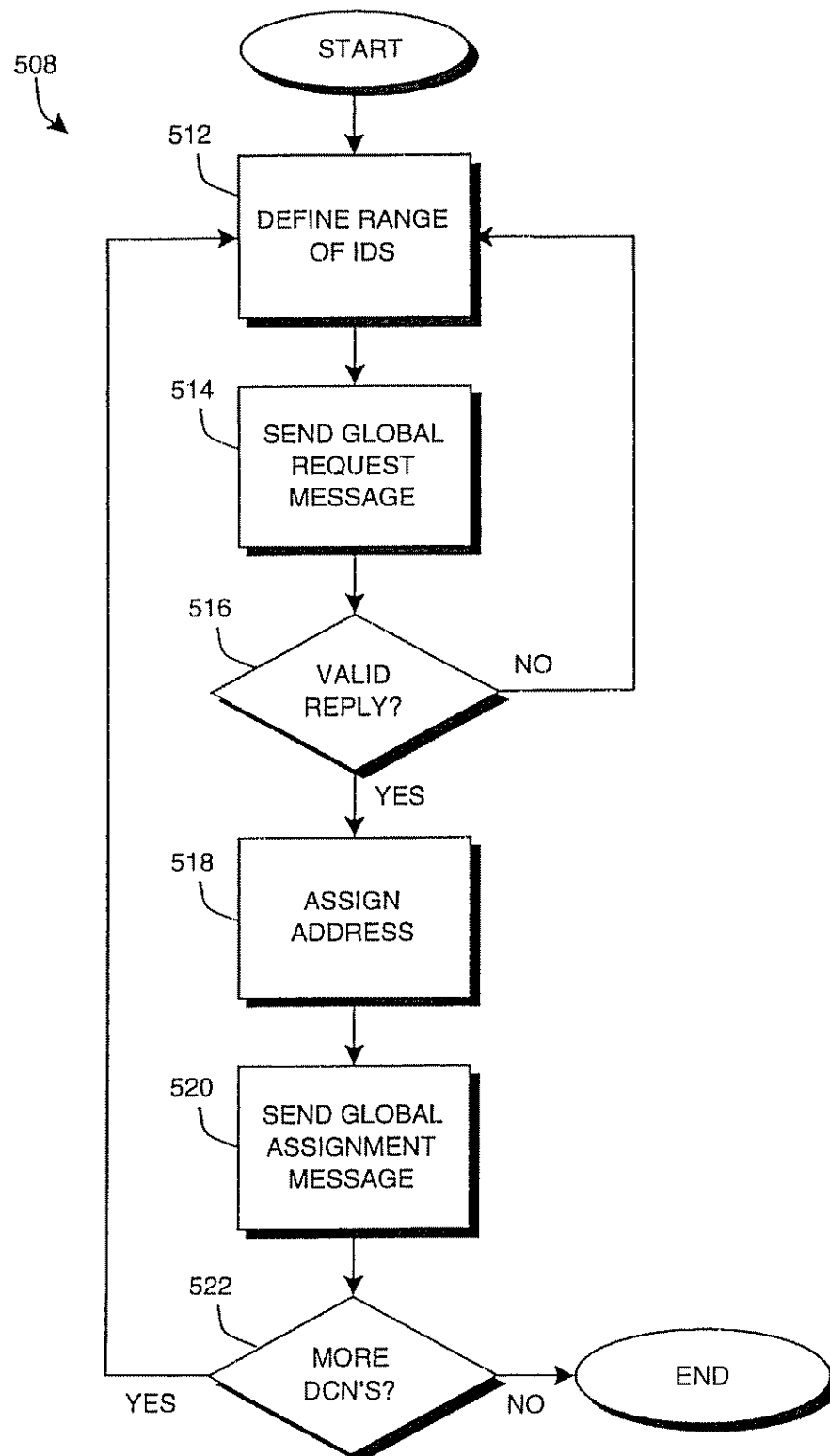


Fig.31

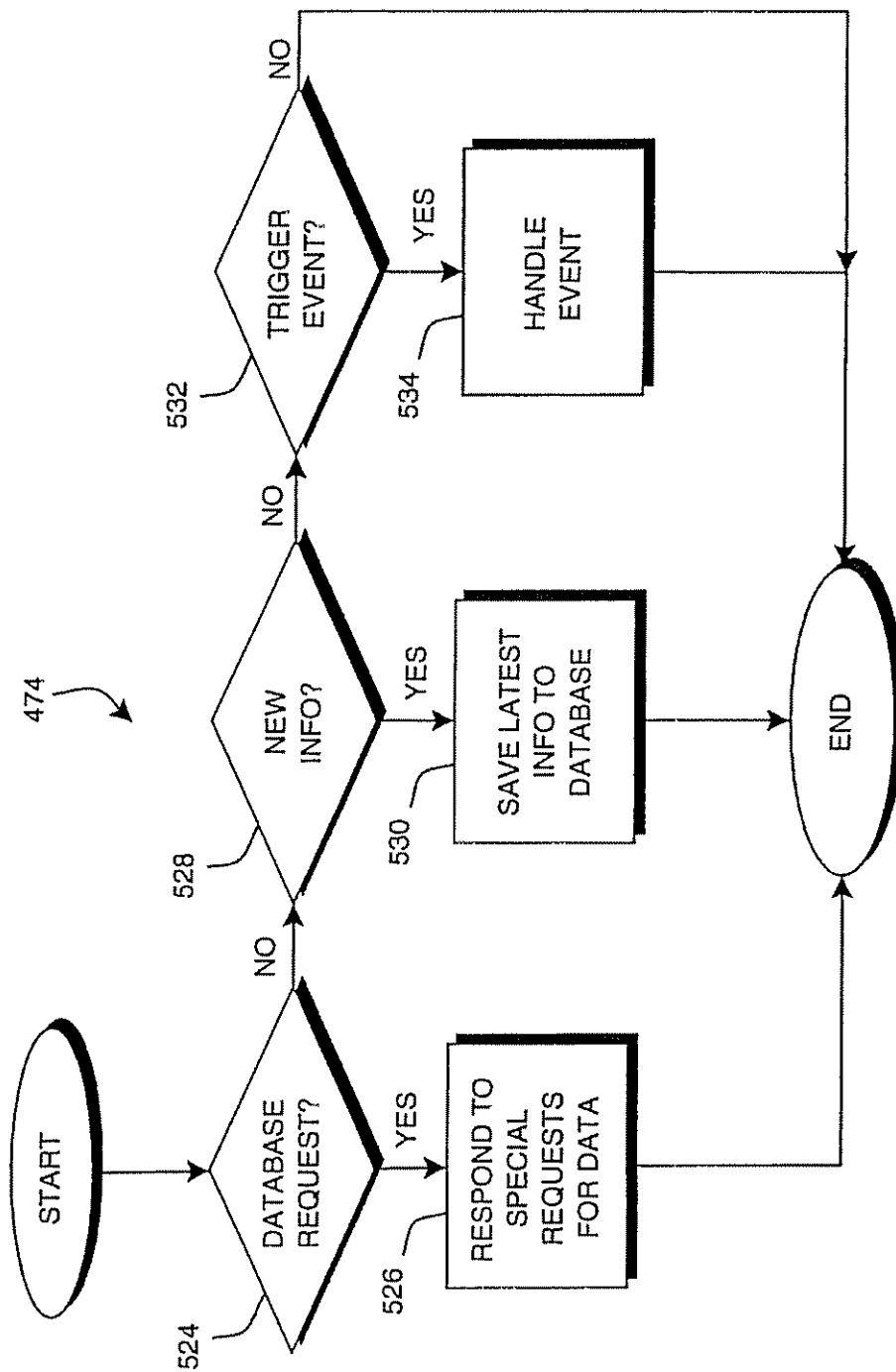


Fig.32

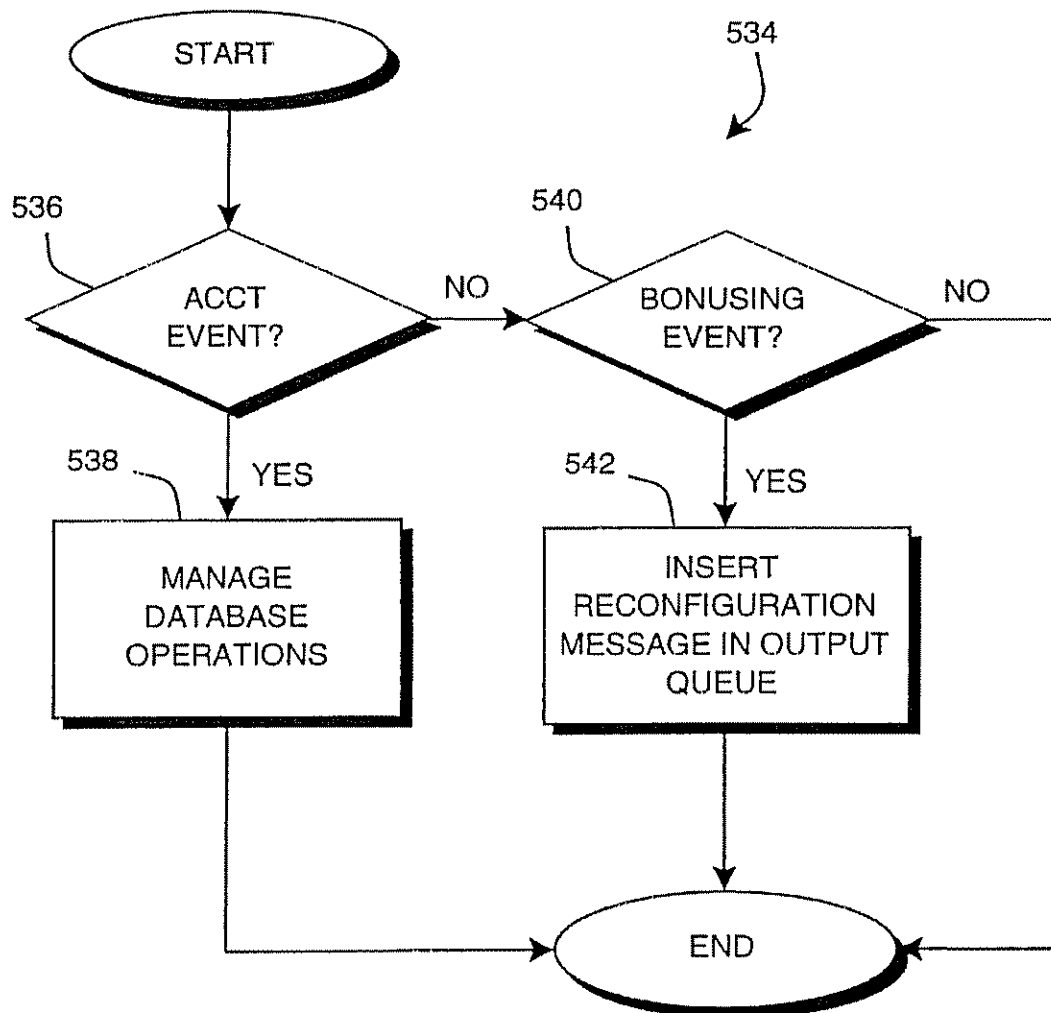


Fig.33

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